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John Sparkman

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MEMORIAL ADDRESSES AND TRIBUTES

IN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

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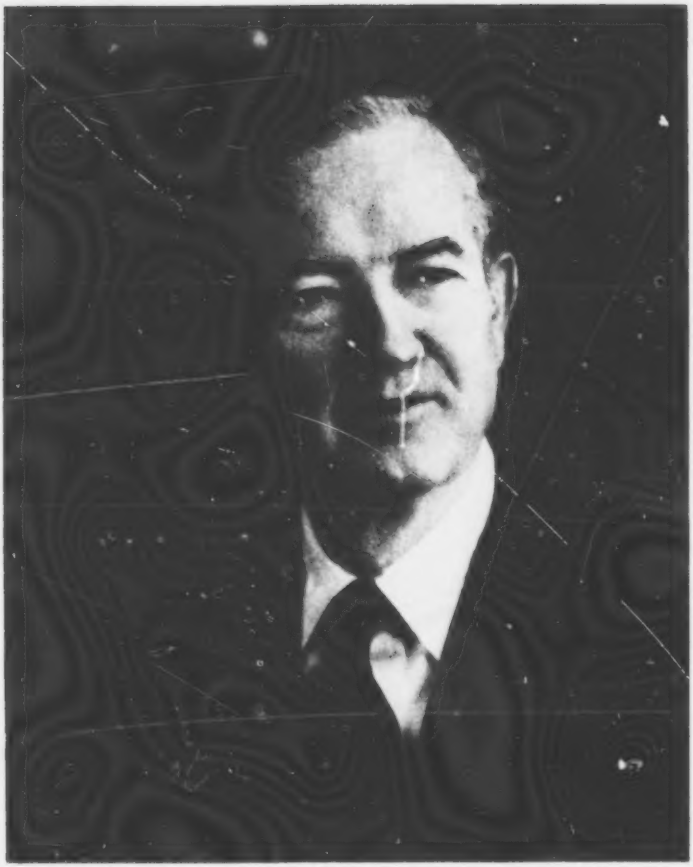

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99TH CONGRESS, 2D SESSION SENATE DOCUMENT NO. 99–26

Memorial Addresses

AND

Other Tributes

IN THE

Congress of the United States

ON THE

LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF

John Sparkman

Ninety-ninth Congress

Second Session

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 1986

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Biography

JOHN JACKSON SPARKMAN, was born on a farm near Hartselle, AL, on December 20, 1899. He graduated from the Morgan County High School and enrolled in the University of Alabama with $75 he earned from a prize acre of cotton. At the University, he was editor of the "Crimson-White," the student newspaper, was president of the student body, was a member of the Student's Army Training Crops during World War I, and was awarded the Faculty Cup for his student contributions. He was graduated Phi Beta Kappa in 1921, and he stayed on to earn both his Masters and his law degrees with a teaching fellowship he had earned in history, and political science.

In 1925 he was admitted to the Alabama Bar and practiced law in Huntsville, AL until 1936. During this time he also served as an instructor at Huntsville College and as a U.S. Commissioner. In 1936 he was elected as a Democrat to the U.S. House of Representatives where he served from January 3, 1937, until November 5, 1946. He was Majority Whip in 1946. He became the only person ever elected to both a seat in the House, and to a seat in the U.S. Senate. Following the election, he resigned from the House of Representatives and assumed his duties in the Senate on November 6, 1946, to which he was reelected in 1948, 1954, 1960, 1966, and 1972. He was not a candidate for reelection in 1978.

John Sparkman was representative of the United States to the Fifth General Assembly of the United Nations in 1950, and was the Democratic nominee for Vice President of the United States on a presidential ticket headed by Adlai Stevenson in 1952. He was the first native-born Alabamian ever selected to run for one of the highest offices in the nation. He served in Congress for 42 years, and served in the Senate for a longer time than any other Alabamian.

Senator Sparkman was active in civil and community organizations throughout his life. He was a lieutenant colonel in the Organized Reserves, served as both Governor, and Lieutenant Governor of the Kiwanis Club of Alabama, was a Scoutmaster, and taught Bible school. After his retirement from the Senate, Sparkman returned to Huntsville where he resumed his law practice until his death on November 16, 1985. He is buried in Maple Hill Cemetery in Huntsville, AL.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

FOR

JOHN SPARKMAN

VII

Proceedings in the Senate

MONDAY, *November 18, 1985.*

The Chaplain, the Reverend Richard C. Halverson, D.D., offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

In a moment of silence, let us remember more than 40 years of honorable public service by Senator SPARKMAN on Capitol Hill.

Thine, O Lord is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty; for all that is in the heaven and in the Earth is thine; thine is the Kingdom, O Lord, and Thou art exalted as head of all. Both riches and honor come to Thee, and Thou rulest over all.—I Chronicles 29: 11,12.

God of peace, in the words of Israel's great King David, we acknowledge who Thou art, as the world looks anxiously to Geneva. Some are pessimistic, some, perhaps, overly optimistic, some cynical—many are hopeful. Wisdom of the Ages, guide President Reagan, his advisors, General Secretary Gorbachev and his advisors, that every detail of the agenda and every moment of meeting will be constructive. Guide those responsible for security that all who participate may be free of threat or danger.

God of Infinite Love, move in the hearts of these two powerful men; make them aware of their common humaneness, and the profound destiny their few hours together involve. If they cannot be friends, help them not to meet as adversaries, but as leaders with a common concern for all people. Dissolve alienation and nurture reconciliation. Give each a vision of the people of the world joining hands around

them in universal longing for peace. In the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, *November 20, 1985.*

Mr. HEFLIN. Mr. President, it is with sadness that I bring to the attention of the Senate that on November 16, 1985, death came to one of the finest Americans ever to serve this Nation, former U.S. Senator JOHN JACKSON SPARKMAN, who served in the Congress of the United States for 42 years, 32 of them in this Chamber.

Mr. President, I speak today in high praise of Senator SPARKMAN not only due to my responsibility to the people of Alabama, but also because it has been my particular honor, for the last 7 years, to hold his seat in the U.S. Senate. In addition, my wife and I have been privileged to have had a close personal relationship with the Sparkmans over the years. Senator SPARKMAN was campaign manager for my wife's grandfather, the Honorable Archie Carmichael, when he was elected to Congress, and later Congressman SPARKMAN succeeded him in the House of Representatives.

During his long and distinguished career in public service, Mr. President, JOHN SPARKMAN built a tremendous record of courage and accomplishment—a record which serves as a legacy and an inspiration to all Alabama Senators yet to come to this Chamber, a record that has seldom been surpassed or equaled in the history of the United States.

Senator SPARKMAN was born in 1899, in an unpretentious tenant farm home near Hartselle, AL. One of 11 children, he learned the traditional American values of hard work, religious faith, and eagerness to learn at a young age. In 1917, he used the proceeds from the sale of a cotton crop he had grown himself to enroll in the University of Alabama, where he wanted to study to be a schoolteacher.

While earning his bachelor's, master's, and law degrees, JOHN SPARKMAN also found time to win a teaching fellowship in history and political science, serve as editor of the student newspaper, and be elected president of the student government. This was his first real sample of politics, and would be the first of many successful campaigns.

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In 1936, after practicing law in Huntsville for a little more than 10 years, JOHN SPARKMAN was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. During his five terms in the House, he served on the Military Affairs Committee, which was particularly crucial in that period around World War II. In his last term as a Member of that body, he served in the leadership position of majority whip.

In 1946, Congressman SPARKMAN was confronted with a unique situation. After SPARKMAN easily received the Democratic nomination for an expected sixth term in the House, the death of Senator John Bankhead, Jr., created a vacancy in the Senate. JOHN SPARKMAN sought the vacant seat, and, in the general election his name appeared as the Democratic candidate for both the Senate and the House seats. So great was the confidence the people of Alabama had in JOHN SPARKMAN, such was the esteem in which he was held, that not only did the people of his congressional district reelect him easily, as was expected, but he was a clear choice of the statewide electorate in the Senate race. I know of no other American political figure who has been elected to the Senate and the House—on the same day and the same ballot.

Although his record in the House of Representatives was certainly exemplary, it was here in the Senate that the legislative skills, insight, and compassion of JOHN SPARKMAN truly blossomed. Joining with Senator Lister Hill, who had already served one decade in the Senate and with whom he would serve more than 20 years, Senator SPARKMAN helped give his constituents in Alabama what he liked to think were the most effective pair of Senators from any State in the Union.

Mr. President, I only wish that our time today permitted me to fully chronicle the countless legislative achievements of this gifted Senator. Senator SPARKMAN's record of accomplishments on behalf of the people of his State and Nation even today reaches into almost every aspect of our lives.

Beginning in his early years in the Senate, one of his primary legislative interests was the promotion of our country's small businesses. As the first chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Small Business, and the sponsor of the legislation establishing the Small Business Administration, Senator SPARKMAN helped to establish an economic atmosphere favor-

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able to the small businessman, who today continues to play such an integral role in our national economy.

In his last term in this body, Senator SPARKMAN assumed what many think is the most prestigious committee assignment in this Chamber, the role of chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations. To that role, he brought his keen understanding of, and insight into, the state of the world. As chairman, he wanted to work to alleviate the major health problems of the world, and he did a great deal to help accomplish this worthy end.

The other legislative landmarks erected by Senator SPARKMAN during his distinguished service are many and varied. Among the tributes to his legislative skills and accomplishments are the passage of laws in the areas of Federal aid to education, crop insurance, veterans' benefits, and the Tennessee Valley Authority. He once said that, of all his accomplishments, he was proudest of his work to bring about the Rural Electrification Act, which carried light to the far-reaching rural areas of this country, and brought progress to every corner of the land.

Still, for all the many outstanding contributions in all of these areas, and more, Senator SPARKMAN's particular charge was his work in the area of housing and financial matters. As a long-time member of the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, and its chairman from 1967 through 1974, he worked to enhance the economic welfare of this Nation by stimulating industrial growth with innovative Federal lending programs. In addition, long before seniority won him the committee chairmanship, he had become known as "Mr. Housing". He believed that homeownership should be the attainable goal of every American family, and that the Federal Government should foster, encourage, and assist them in reaching this goal. He was the primary craftsman of almost all public housing legislation, beginning with the Housing Act of 1949, which began the Nation's urban renewal program. Today, Mr. President, the thousands upon thousands of homes built under Federal housing programs, in every State, are homes built largely because of JOHN SPARKMAN's leadership, dedication, and commitment, and stand as a fitting and proper tribute to his work.

Mr. President, it was not long after his first election to the Senate that JOHN SPARKMAN faced a major political crisis. After President Truman, in 1947, created a Civil Rights Commission to investigate the plight of blacks in the South, Senator SPARKMAN was quoted as saying, "The people of the South are so bitter they will never accept Truman as a candidate." The split in the Democratic Party in 1948 shows that he was correct, but when others met in Birmingham to join the "Dixiecrats" and split from the national party, he refused to go along. Not only did he keep his allegiance to the national party, but he also successfully fought the Dixiecrats for control of the State party, as well.

Just a few years later, in 1952, yet another testimonial to his outstanding abilities was paid when the Democratic National Convention selected him as their Vice-Presidential nominee. Unfortunately for the Stevenson-Sparkman ticket, they were up against a man who was perhaps the most formidable adversary possible at that time, Gen. Dwight Eisenhower. The defeat he suffered that year would be the only electoral defeat JOHN SPARKMAN ever suffered, as he would go on to four more successful Senate races.

Mr. President, I know I speak for all Alabamians when I say that we were indeed lucky to have had the dedicated services of Senator JOHN SPARKMAN. When I reflect on his brilliant record, I am especially proud to have followed him to this distinguished body.

Senator SPARKMAN is survived by his wife, the former Ivo Hall; a daughter, Mrs. Tazewell T. Shepard II, of Washington, DC; and a grandson, Tazewell T. Shepard III, of Huntsville. On behalf of the people of Alabama, I extend my deepest sympathy to these family members.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that several articles concerning Senator SPARKMAN's life and work be printed in the Record.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

[From the Birmingham (AL) News, Nov. 17, 1985]

FARM BOY ROSE TO "WRITE" A BETTER LIFE

HUNTSVILLE.—He was born in 1899 on a tenant farm in Morgan County, and aspired one day to be a schoolteacher.

Instead he became one of the most powerful and august statesmen in American history, writing sweeping legislation that helped Americans obtain a better life.

JOHN JACKSON SPARKMAN, a ruddy-faced man with sparkling eyes and flowing silver hair, died early Saturday at a Huntsville nursing home. He was 85.

He was not known for fiery oratory, nor did he inflame crowds on issues or social causes in his 47 years in politics, first as a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives, then as a Senator, and in 1952 as the Democratic Vice Presidential candidate. His aim as a Member of the Senate, he once said, was simply to help people have a better life and greater opportunities.

Tazewell T. Shepard III, SPARKMAN's grandson, said the former Democratic Senator died of an apparent heart attack.

Funeral will be at 3 p.m. Monday at the First United Methodist Church in Huntsville, with burial in Maple Hill Cemetery, Huntsville. Laughan's Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

SPARKMAN is survived by his wife, Ivo Hall Sparkman, his daughter, Julia Anne Shepard of Washington, DC, and his grandson.

SPARKMAN served in Congress longer than any other Alabamian—through the Depression, World War II, the Korean war, the Vietnam war, the social discord of the civil rights struggle that was centered in his home State, and the resignation of a President in disgrace.

He first was elected to the House in 1936, then to the Senate in 1946, where he served until he retired in 1979.

Known as one of the most astute politicians to walk the halls of government in Washington, he played a major role in getting the Tennessee Valley Authority budgeted to serve the people of that area of the South.

He embraced and often wrote legislation that helped bring a better standard of life for Americans, ranging from a government housing program in Gees Bend to the space program in Huntsville, which resulted in rockets that put man on the moon.

He fought to get an Air Force windtunnel test station moved to Huntsville in 1950, and failed—but he succeeded in getting something else.

To Huntsville leaders, he confided: "Don't worry, I got you something better."

That "something" was a team of German rocket scientists, who formed the nucleus of the Nation's space effort at the Marshall Space Flight Center.

Dr. Ernest Stuhlinger, a member of the Wernher von Braun rocket team that built America's first space rockets at Huntsville, said Saturday that SPARKMAN had been "one of the warmest and most effective friends we had in Huntsville."

"He was intrigued by the new things we wanted to do," he said. "He was one of the first ones who saw the handwriting on the wall for the new space age."

The city of Huntsville earlier named a street for SPARKMAN, and Madison County officials named a high school in his honor.

Upon his retirement from the Senate in 1979, SPARKMAN said, "I take satisfaction in knowing that I have always done all that I could for Alabama and for my country."

He earned the admiration of his fellow politicians on Capitol Hill. When his hometown of Hartselle honored him, the keynote speaker was U.S. Senator Edward M. Kennedy.

And while he was generally low-key, he had from time to time fired verbal shots at former President Richard Nixon when the White House cut back Federal money for housing programs.

Unlike other southern politicians, SPARKMAN was never a barnburner when it came to the question of civil rights, although he had routinely sided with other southern leaders in the early years of the drive for equality by blacks.

In 1974, SPARKMAN was asked to define the major change in southern politics in his lifetime. He replied: "The elimination of the civil rights question as a political issue."

In 1947, when President Harry Truman created a Civil Rights Commission to look into the plight of blacks in the South, SPARKMAN told a reporter, "The people of the South are so bitter that they will never accept Truman as a candidate."

He was right. But when others met in Birmingham to shift from the national Democratic Party SPARKMAN refused to join, keeping his allegiance to the main party.

His loyalty was rewarded when he was selected as the Democratic nominee for Vice President in 1952, running with Adlai Stevenson of Illinois. They were defeated by Republicans Dwight Eisenhower and Richard Nixon—the only political defeat SPARKMAN ever suffered.

During that campaign SPARKMAN displayed his sense of humor, once lifting his foot so photographers could snap a picture of a hole in his shoe.

He was often the man behind the scenes, when hijackers took $2 million in ransom and forced a pilot to fly a Southern Airways jet to Cuba in November 1972, SPARKMAN was involved in negotiations to get the money back, sending a letter directly to Fidel Castro. The money was returned.

In 1973, he sponsored a bill to pay for a study on using solar energy to provide heat and lighting in homes.

He liked to ride trains. Once in 1974, he and his wife Ivo, traveled by train from Birmingham to Washington because, they said, they preferred that mode of travel to flying. SPARKMAN would watch the Alabama scenery slip by, listen to the rhythmic clacking of the wheels and drop off to sleep.

In his final years in the Senate his critics often kidded him for apparently dropping off to sleep during meetings.

But he laughed about it and told aide Eddie Sokol that he wasn't asleep but was listening to every word said about him.

"He had a tremendous capacity to get things done his way without being pushy about it," Sokol said Saturday.

SPARKMAN told grandson Shepard that he was proudest of his work to bring about the Rural Electrification Act, which carried light to rural areas of the Nation.

During World War II he wrote a bill that prohibited banks from foreclosing on homes or farms owned by men in military service. And as a Senator, he helped create the Small Business Administration and Farmers Home Administration.

SPARKMAN had become ill with an undetermined "bug" last week, but continued therapy for an artificial hip joint at the Big Spring Nursing Home near his home.

During a visit a few days ago, SPARKMAN told his grandson about a night in 1910 when he viewed Halley's Comet.

"He could remember riding in a wagon to a relative's house and how the light from the comet lit up the night sky so brilliantly he could read a newspaper," Shepard said. "He said he was looking forward to seeing it again and hoped he would be able to get out and take a look when it came around."

First elected to the House in 1936, SPARKMAN sought and won a seat in the Senate in 1946, filling the vacancy created by the death of Senator John Bankhead.

In a unique set of circumstances, SPARKMAN also was on the ballot for the House in 1946—and was elected to serve there, too. The only person ever elected to the House and Senate at the same time, he resigned the House seat to serve in the Senate.

He was chairman of the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs from 1967 through 1974, and later was named chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee.

He was born Dec. 20, 1899, near Hartselle, one of 11 children. He later attended the University of Alabama, where he studied law and was editor of the campus newspaper, The Crimson White.

He moved to Huntsville and began practicing law, a career he pursued until he ran for Congress.

Governor George C. Wallace described SPARKMAN as one of Alabama's "most distinguished citizens," the Governor's press secretary Bill Joe Camp said Saturday.

Senator Howell Heflin won the seat SPARKMAN vacated in 1978. Wallace also considered running for SPARKMAN's seat but decided not to run.

Wallace endorsed SPARKMAN in several campaigns, including his last one in 1972, Camp said.

"We know that his accomplishments for the State, Nation, even the world, are significant," Camp quoted Wallace as saying of SPARKMAN. "My thoughts and prayers are with his family."

[From the Birmingham (AL) News, Nov. 18, 1985]

SPARKMAN'S SERVICE

Former U.S. Senator JOHN JACKSON SPARKMAN, one of the most influential politicians ever to come out of Alabama and a major architect of the Nation's postwar housing program has died. He was 85.

He served his State and Nation well from the depths of the Great Depression through the upheaval of the Vietman war. He was among the last survivors of a great generation of Alabama representatives in Washington that has included his longtime Senate colleague Lister Hill, Hill's successor Jim Allen, and several strong leaders in the House of Representatives.

SPARKMAN retired in 1978 after serving in Congress for 42 years. He had spent 32 of those years in the Senate, longer than any other Alabamian. The only political defeat of his illustrious career came in 1952, when he was the Vice Presidential nominee on the Democratic ticket headed by Adlai Stevenson.

While that nomination put SPARKMAN in the national limelight, his real influence came in the Halls of Congress, where he was recognized as a champion of the small businessman, the Tennessee Valley Authority, Marshall Space Flight Center and especially as "Mr. Housing".

He served for many years as chairman of the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Development Committee, a post he used to develop and promote legislation to encourage homebuilding and homeownership.

He gave up that assignment in 1975 to become chairman of the more prestigious Senate Foreign Relations Committee, a fitting position for a senior statesman who, in addition to his 24 years on the committee, had served as a U.S. delegate to the United Nations and as one of the negotiators of the peace treaty with Japan.

SPARKMAN, born in a Morgan County log cabin, studied law at the University of Alabama, where he was elected president of the student government association and edited the student newspaper. After practicing law in Huntsville, he was elected to the House in 1936.

Ten years later, he had been nominated for another House term when Senator John Bankhead died. To keep the House seat from falling into Republican hands while he sought a place in the Senate, SPARKMAN ran for and was elected to both Houses of Congress at the same time—a unique achievement in the annals of Alabama history.

As he approached retirement, SPARKMAN said he took satisfaction "in knowing that I have always done all that I could for Alabama and my country." He did a tremendous amount of good and set a lofty standard for all who follow in his path of service.

[From the Birmingham (AL) Post-Herald, Nov. 19, 1985]

JOHN J. SPARKMAN

When he was at the height of his political power, Senator JOHN J. SPARKMAN, who died over the weekend at age 85, helped give Alabama one of the strongest one-two congressional punches ever seen in Washington.

Together with Senator Lister Hill, SPARKMAN helped reshape this State through his ability to bring Federal projects to Alabama. Huntsville's space industry is a direct result of his work. And although he wasn't one of the creators, the Tennessee Valley Authority prospered and grew because of his efforts. Birmingham's public housing program is still another result of his efforts.

But this son of a Morgan County tenant farmer did not limit himself to looking after the interests of his home State. He became a leading national figure in the areas of housing, banking, and small business. Indeed, this coun-

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try's policies in all three areas were primarily his creation for nearly three decades.

We have SPARKMAN to thank for the boom in home ownership that began following World War II, for rural electrification, and many other programs that have improved our well-being.

SPARKMAN was also active in foreign policy, serving on the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations from 1951 until his retirement in 1979 and as a delegate to the United Nations in 1950 and 1951. Although he did not become chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee until 1975, when he was far past his political prime, his earlier contributions helped this country adjust to a role of global leadership.

SPARKMAN came out of a political tradition that was overshadowed—even rejected—during the Civil Rights era. He was a progressive, even a liberal. One of many that Alabama sent to Congress before the question of race came to dominate all political issues and southern politicians began calling themselves "conservative". He believed that Government should help people do what they were not able to do for themselves.

Although he joined other southern politicians in opposing civil rights legislation—to do otherwise would have ended his public service—SPARKMAN was not a demagogue on the issue. This combined with his views on nonracial issues made him a logical nominee for Vice President in 1952, during an era when Democrats tried for geographic balance.

It can be argued that the Senator stayed in office longer than he should have. His effectiveness declined during the last several of his 42 years in Congress as age caught up with him.

But there should be no argument that in his prime SPARKMAN was one of the Senate's leading Members. And that was in an era when Congress exercised much greater leadership in shaping Government than it does at present.

JOHN SPARKMAN served this State and Nation well. He worked to make Government serve the people. His legacy can be seen throughout our society.

[From the Birmingham (AL) News, Nov. 17, 1985]

SPARKMAN GOT THINGS DONE IN LOW-KEY, POLITE MANNER

(By James Free)

JOHN SPARKMAN's main assets as a political leader often made it frustrating for a reporter to write about him.

He liked to work with a minimum of controversy and confrontation. He avoided sharp words and personal attacks.

In the more than 30 years that I covered Washington for the Birmingham News, I never was able to get a quote from SPARKMAN that made a "gee-whiz" headline.

That was not accidental—it was SPARKMAN policy.

He believed in accomplishing whatever he could without meeting personal opposition.

Edd Hyde, a longtime top staff assistant, says that SPARKMAN told him early on to be cautious in answering letters—letters of criticism in particular.

"Do not write anything that would be embarrassing if it were published on the front page of the Birmingham News," SPARKMAN told him.

SPARKMAN didn't drink anything stronger than tea or coffee. He never smoked. If he ever cursed, this reporter never heard it nor heard about it.

Some of his campaign rivals accused him of political wrongdoing, but they couldn't back it up to the satisfaction of Alabama voters.

He won five races for a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives and beginning in 1946, six for the U.S. Senate.

He did lose as the Democratic nominee for Vice President in 1952 on the ticket with Adlai Stevenson, but they never had a chance against World War II hero Dwight Eisenhower, who took the Republicans into office.

No one can say that SPARKMAN came anywhere close to last place in politics, however.

In his decade of service in the House, SPARKMAN rose to the top with his election as Democratic whip, outranked only by the majority leader and the Speaker.

As a freshman Senator, SPARKMAN never was treated as a rookie.

He began with assignment to the Banking and Currency Committee and became known as "Mr. Housing" long before seniority won him the committee chairmanship.

With former U.S. Representative Albert Rains of Gadsden serving as his counterpart in the House in the 1950's and 1960's, SPARKMAN took the lead in setting public housing policies for the Nation.

SPARKMAN's ability to work with his colleagues paid off during his several decades of service with the late U.S. Senator Lister Hill of Montgomery. They were recognized as the most effective pair of Senators from a single state.

SPARKMAN and Hill had many national accomplishments in legislation effecting education, farming, rural electrification, and other areas. Their contributions to the Tennessee Valley Authority were significant and lasting.

SPARKMAN and Hill also saw to it that Alabama received at least its share of navigation and other Federal projects.

SPARKMAN was nominated for Vice President by the Democrats in 1952 largely because of his talent for promoting his causes without making enemies.

He went to the Chicago convention a week early to round up delegates in support of U.S. Senator Richard Russell of Georgia for the Presidential nomination. Russell's main rivals were Senator Estes Kefauver of Tennessee and eventual winner Stevenson who was governor of Illinois.

When Stevenson won he was reminded by House Speaker Sam Rayburn that SPARKMAN had many friends in the Kefauver camp although the Alabamian had worked for Russell.

Many conservative Alabamians thought that SPARKMAN's link with the liberal Stevenson in 1952 would make him vulnerable in the 1954 Senate race.

But SPARKMAN covered thousands of miles in Alabama in 1953 and convinced the voters he was still the same tenant farmer's son they had always known.

[From the Birmingham (AL) News, Nov. 17, 1985]

Veteran Newsman Recalls "One of the Giants of Politics"

(By Al Fox)

Our U.S. Navy ship was steaming off the coast of South Korea in the fall of 1952 when the ship's messenger woke me.

"The captain wants to see you in his cabin immediately," he said.

A Navy lieutenant then, I scrambled to the skipper's cabin and found him listening to the shortwave radio.

John Sparkman he said, was about to make his acceptance speech for his party's nomination for Vice President of the United States.

There in the corner of the cabin, with only a Filipino steward keeping the coffee cups filled, we listened to Sparkman accept the biggest challenge of his already illustrious political career.

I had always been interested in Alabama politics and had had the privilege of meeting Alabama's then-junior U.S. Senator.

But not until I was released to inactive duty and switched from writing sports to politics did I come to know up close one of the giants of Alabama politics.

In 1954, Sparkman was seeking reelection to the Senate. Two of my friends in Gadsden, both lawyers, were active in Sparkman's campaign. They were Lewis Odum and Virgil Pittman. With my change to political reporting, they were responsible for my becoming well acquainted with Sparkman.

Odum, then in practice with the law firm headed by U.S. Representative Albert Raines of Gadsden, worked on Sparkman's State staff. Pittman was the man in Etowah County.

Odum became Sparkman's administrative assistant and later moved on to other top jobs in the administration, primarily in small business, where the Alabama Senator was champion.

Pittman became a U.S. district judge in south Alabama and has retired from full-time judicial duties. Odum now practices law in Mobile.

Sparkman and his wife, the former Ivo Hall were avid train travelers, not only for trips to and from the Nation's Capital, but for other journeys across the Nation.

When the train stopped running between Huntsville and Chattanooga, where the Sparkmans would change to a train to Washington, they came to Birmingham to catch a train to the Capital. And Birmingham's old Terminal Station was the site of frequent press conferences.

Although he loved to travel by train, Sparkman was in the forefront of bringing the then-infant space program to his beloved Huntsville, where work on rockets led men to walk on the Moon.

And there is no question in my mind of where Sparkman would stand today in the congressional fight to reduce funding for Amtrak and to keep the trains rolling.

Sparkman served 42 years in Congress—the first 10 in the House of Representatives. When Senator John Bankhead died in 1946, Sparkman was already the nominee of the Democratic Party of another term in the House.

Party leaders nominated SPARKMAN to succeed Bankhead—but they wouldn't let him resign the nomination for reelection to the House and give the coveted "TVA country" seat to a token Republican by default.

Thus SPARKMAN became the only man in the Nation's history to win election to the U.S. House and Senate on the same day.

When he retired from Congress at the end of his term on January 3, 1979, he returned to Huntsville to open a law practice with his only grandson, a young lawyer, Tazewell Shepard III.

It was at his Huntsville law office that I had my best lengthy conversation with the Senator.

There were no big signs outside the building or on the doors telling a visitor where the office was. Townspeople knew the location.

On the door was a small brass nameplate inscribed "Mr. SPARKMAN". It was the same nameplate that had marked his desk throughout his congressional career.

[From the Montgomery (AL) Advertiser, Nov. 18, 1985]

JOHN SPARKMAN

Alabama is a State known for sending colorful and effective lawmakers to Washington—Hugo Black and Lister Hill, for instance. But no political light from this State could outshine that of Senator John SPARKMAN, the man who represented Alabama in Congress longer than any other.

Senator SPARKMAN died in his sleep Saturday in a nursing home where he was undergoing therapy for a hip that was broken 2 years ago. He was 85.

SPARKMAN's political career spanned 41 years, beginning with his election to Congress in 1936. Ten years later he moved to the Senate, after having become the only man in history to be elected to the House and Senate concurrently.

He was elected in 1946 to fill the unexpired term of Senator John Bankhead and was returned to the House in the same vote. He resigned his House seat, and won his first full Senate term in 1948.

The Senator's rise to political power could have been scripted by Horatio Alger. He was 1 of 11 children of a tenant-farmer father, but he completed high school and left for the University of Alabama with $75 in his pocket—money he received as a loan on a cotton crop. He paid his way by tending furnaces at $4.20 a week, until he received a fellowship to teach history and political science in his junior year.

SPARKMAN's friends claimed he set something of a record in college, entering with a borrowed $75 and leaving with a Beta Kappa Key, undergraduate, master's and law degrees, a wife, a child, and $1,500 in the bank.

After practicing law and teaching in college for several years, SPARKMAN ran against four opponents in the Democratic primary for Congress. He won a runoff election, and won handily for the remainder of his congressional career.

SPARKMAN made one attempt at national office as the 1952 Vice Presidential running-mate of Adlai Stevenson. The two were defeated by Dwight Eisenhower and Richard Nixon.

SPARKMAN became known as champion of public housing, chairing the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee until 1975, when he relinquished the post to assume the chairmanship of the Foreign Relations Committee at age 75.

He also pushed through numerous pieces of legislation to help the small businessman, including the Small Business Acts of 1953 and 1958 and the key amendments in 1966 and 1967.

SPARKMAN provided the impetus for the Housing Act of 1949, which established the Federal urban renewal program intended to revitalize America's cities. He championed subsidized housing legislation and other laws making home ownership easier.

Senator Howell Heflin, who succeeded SPARKMAN in 1979 after he decided against seeking reelection, said of his fellow Democrat: "Thousands and thousands of families in this Nation own their homes because of JOHN SPARKMAN's leadership, dedication, and commitment."

That's an honorable legacy for any man.

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I was saddened to learn of the passing of former Senator JOHN J. SPARKMAN of Alabama. Though we did not always agree, I respected JOHN SPARKMAN for the strength of character which brought him from humble beginnings to a position of great respect and authority on Capitol Hill.

JOHN SPARKMAN was born the seventh of 11 children, on a tenant farm near Hartselle, AL, just before the turn of the century. At 21, he used the proceeds from the sale of a cotton crop he had raised to attend the University of Alabama, eventually earning three degrees. As a soldier during World War I, a teacher, and a lawyer, JOHN SPARKMAN demonstrated the commitment to public service which was to serve him well during his three decades in Congress.

During his congressional years, JOHN SPARKMAN saw himself as the champion of what Franklin Roosevelt called the forgotten man. He was a strong supporter of the Tennessee Valley Authority, which brought power and agricultural development to the struggling small farmers of that region. In addition, during the "Dust Bowl" days of the midthirties, he was a strong supporter of loans to help small farmers across the Nation keep their farms and maintain their heritage. Because he believed in the importance of ensuring that our senior citizens be able to maintain their dignity, he was a strong supporter of the Social Security System when it was still a national experiment in human compassion and long before it became the broadly accepted principle of American life that it is today.

At the same time, JOHN SPARKMAN realized the importance of knowledge and technological expertise to America's future, and was a strong supporter of the Federal Government's role in promoting education.

As chairman of the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, Senator SPARKMAN was the original sponsor of much legislation, such as the Housing Act of 1949 and the Fair Credit Billing Act that has since become national policy. He was also known as the Senate's premier champion of the small businessman.

On the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, JOHN SPARKMAN was a key supporter of both NATO, which to this day remains one of the cornerstones of American foreign policy, and of the Marshall plan, perhaps the most successful American foreign policy effort in our postwar history. His advocacy of bipartisan cooperation in foreign affairs is something which I believe the current administration would do well to remember.

In many ways JOHN SPARKMAN's life and career demonstrates both the opportunity which America provides and the progress which we as a Nation have made during the past 85 years. All of us who have the honor to serve in this body can learn something from reflecting upon the life and times of Senator JOHN J. SPARKMAN.

FRIDAY, *November 22, 1985.*

Mr. DENTON. Mr. President, I rise to express deep sadness at the death of former Senator JOHN J. SPARKMAN of Alabama. Senator SPARKMAN was a towering oak for Alabama in the U.S. Congress for 40 years.

Although I did not have the privilege of personally knowing Senator SPARKMAN, I do know him through his giant reputation. A current member of my staff worked for Senator SPARKMAN for 20 years. She has told me of his compassion, graciousness, and personal attention to his constituents. I am told that he would come into the office on Saturdays and personally telephone constituents to provide what assistance that he could for them.

Senator SPARKMAN was elected to the House of Representatives from the Eighth District of Alabama in 1936. He was re-

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elected for five terms without opposition and served as majority whip during his last term.

Senator SPARKMAN also holds the distinction to be the only man in U.S. history to be elected simultaneously to both Houses of the Congress. In 1946, he was elected to the Senate to fill the unexpired term of the late Senator John Bankhead and was also reelected to the House of Representatives. After serving five terms in the Senate, Senator SPARKMAN retired in 1978.

While serving in the Senate, he was the chairman of the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs and the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. Senator SPARKMAN was widely known for his efforts to provide adequate housing for all citizens. He also championed many issues that were important to Alabama such as the establishment of Huntsville as a NASA research center; the Tennessee Valley Authority; and the approval of funds to develop Alabama's waterways, including the construction of the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway. All of these efforts were important to the economic development of Alabama.

I wish to pay my sincere respects to the family of Senator SPARKMAN. Even though his death saddens us, we can all celebrate the productive life that he lived and be thankful that he faithfully served Alabama and the Nation for so many years. He was a true statesman—a man for whom all Alabama can be justly proud.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that an editorial about Senator SPARKMAN be inserted in the Record.

There being no objection, the editorial was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

[From the Birmingham (AL) News, Nov. 18, 1985]

SPARKMAN'S SERVICE

Former U.S. Senator JOHN JACKSON SPARKMAN, one of the most influential politicians ever to come out of Alabama and a major architect of the Nation's postwar housing program, has died. He was 85.

He served his State and Nation well from the depths of the Great Depression through the upheaval of the Vietnam war. He was among the last survivors of a great generation of Alabama Representatives in Washington that had included his longtime Senate colleague Lister Hill, Hill's successor, Jim Allen, and several strong leaders in the House of Representatives.

SPARKMAN retired in 1976 after serving in Congress for 42 years. He had spent 32 of those years in the Senate, longer than any other Alabamian. The only political defeat of his illustrious career came in 1952, when he was the Vice Presidential nominee on the Democratic ticket headed by Adlai Stevenson.

While that nomination put SPARKMAN in the national limelight, his real influence came in the Halls of Congress, where he was recognized as a champion of the small businessman, the Tennessee Valley Authority, Marshall Space Flight Center and especially, as "Mr. Housing".

He served for many years as chairman of the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Development Committee, a post he used to develop and promote legislation to encourage homebuilding and homeownership.

He gave up that assignment in 1975 to become chairman of the more prestigious Senate Foreign Relations Committee, a fitting position for a senior statesman, who, in addition to his 24 years on the committee, had served as a U.S. delegate to the United Nations and as one of the negotiators of the peace treaty with Japan.

SPARKMAN, born in a Morgan County log cabin, studied law at the University of Alabama, where he was elected president of the student government association and edited the student newspaper. After practicing law in Huntsville, he was elected to the House in 1936.

Ten years later, he had been nominated for another House term when Senator John Bankhead died. To keep the House seat from falling into Republican hands while he sought a place in the Senate, SPARKMAN ran for and was elected to both Houses of Congress at the same time—a unique achievement in the annals of Alabama history.

As he approached retirement, SPARKMAN said he took satisfaction "in knowing that I have always done all that I could for Alabama and my country." He did a tremendous amount of good, and set a lofty standard for all who follow in his path of service.

WEDNESDAY, *March 5, 1986.*

Mr. HEFLIN. Mr. President, we gather today in tribute to one of the greatest Americans ever to hold a seat in this body, JOHN J. SPARKMAN, who passed away last November 16 at the age of 85.

I am certain that we are all well aware of the life and work of Senator SPARKMAN. Born as one of 11 brothers and sisters in a small tenant farmhome near Hartselle, he went on to graduate from the University of Alabama, where he financed his education through the sale of a cotton crop he had raised. During his years at the University, JOHN SPARKMAN served as both editor of the student newspaper and president of the stu-

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dent body. In addition, at his graduation, he was awarded the faculty cup for his student contributions to the university.

Following law school, JOHN SPARKMAN settled in Huntsville, AL. After practicing law for 11 years, he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1936. He first came to Washington to see that Alabama got better schools, better housing, better roads, and a better quality of life. He did all of that and more—for Alabama and America—before he retired from the Senate 42 years later. Throughout his long career, Senator SPARKMAN made it a point not only to remember who elected him, but why. He understood the need to bring opportunity and comfort to all Americans, and he had the legislative ability to shape the policies of Government toward those ends.

In five terms in the House, JOHN SPARKMAN distinguished himself as a member of the Military Affairs Committee, which then had jurisdiction over the Tennessee Valley Authority, and as majority whip. In 1946, the death of Senator John H. Bankhead, Jr., created a set of unique circumstances, where SPARKMAN not only sought the vacant Senate seat, but also remained on the ballot for his House seat. So highly was he thought of that he won both races, becoming the only person in American history to be simultaneously elected to the House and Senate.

During his 32 years here in the Senate, Senator SPARKMAN achieved the stature of a statesman in domestic and world affairs. He served as the first chairman of the Select Committee on Small Business when it was established in 1950. In this capacity, he sponsored the landmark legislation creating the Small Business Administration. From 1967 through 1974, Senator SPARKMAN served as chairman of the Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee, and, from 1975 to 1978, as chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee. The work of these committees, under his leadership, illustrated the fact that legislation, in the final analysis, is the ultimate art of the possible, that it does involve the consideration of differing views by honest men of good will.

Although his last years in the Senate brought him the chairmanship of the Foreign Relations Committee, JOHN SPARKMAN's particular area of involvement will always be remembered as housing. In fact, long before he became chairman of the Banking and Housing Committee, he had earned the name "Mr. Housing". He was the primary craftsman and drafter of

almost every single piece of public housing legislation, beginning with the Housing Act of 1949, which began the Nation's Urban Renewal Program. In fact, there is one quotation which, more than any other, illustrates Senator SPARKMAN's realization of the importance of housing. It reads, "Decent, safe, and adequate shelter is just as necessary to the American family as is food, medicine, or clothing."

In his capacity as chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, JOHN SPARKMAN had a hand in developing an expanded role for the Congress in the shaping of American foreign policy. It is no surprise to anyone who knew him that his view of foreign policy was a view of humanity. He dealt less with other countries than with other people.

Indeed, Mr. President, the legislative career and achievements of JOHN SPARKMAN can serve as a highly accurate mirror of his life. Whether his career is measured on a scale of legislative accomplishments or one of political achievements or one of warm humanity, the same conclusion will undoubtedly be reached—he was, in the best sense of the word, a distinguished Senator for the people of Alabama and America.

During JOHN SPARKMAN's 42 years of representing Alabama, the ways of the Congress, of the Nation, and of the world all changed greatly. For a public servant to survive through these changes required ability, dedication, determination, and understanding. Not only did Senator SPARKMAN survive these times, he prospered during them. He helped lead through them. He was that type of man.

Senator SPARKMAN first came to Congress in the second term of President Franklin Roosevelt. In that age of the New Deal, he was a leader. In the time of World War II, the era of the cold war, and the crisis of Vietnam, he remained a leader. Even today, by the example he set for the countless Americans who remember his efforts, JOHN SPARKMAN remains a leader.

In an age when it was easy, and even expected, to practice bitter regional politics, JOHN SPARKMAN was a man of progressive and broad views. By a generation, he anticipated the vast transformation of both southern and national politics. His sense of humanitarianism, his overriding concern for the welfare of all people, his soft-spoken leadership and keen intellect, and his belief in the basic goodness of the people he represented endures as a reliable formula for us all when we feel

overcome by the bewildering complexity of the problems of today's world.

One of the highlights of Senator SPARKMAN's public life must have been his selection to run for Vice President on the Democratic ticket with Adlai Stevenson in 1952. Although the Stevenson-Sparkman ticket gained a larger popular vote than had ever been achieved, they lost to a ticket headed by Dwight Eisenhower. I think it tells a great deal about the character of JOHN SPARKMAN to realize that, although he could have retired in 1952 after what must have been a great disappointment, already having led a fulfilling public life, his service to our Nation instead continued for more than another quarter century, leaving an indelible imprint on our national history.

Of course, the national campaign of that year also offered an opportunity for wider exposure of the many accomplishments of Senator SPARKMAN. In his nominating speech, Stevenson said that his selection as a running mate was a " * * * devoted champion of legislation providing or promoting farmownership, better housing, Social Security, the TVA, rural electrification, soil conservation, crop insurance, and many other progressive and forward-looking legislative programs." If anything, Mr. President, this was only a partial listing of the areas where JOHN SPARKMAN had made a strong impact.

Governor Stevenson went on, in an eloquent conclusion, to say, "JOHN SPARKMAN has enlisted for life in the struggle to improve the economic lot and the security of all of our people."

During this "enlistment for life," he witnessed some of the most difficult years of our Nation's history, but his work has softened hard times for all Americans. He saw the effects of the Great Depression, helped us enter the nuclear age, and come through the turbulent sixties. Throughout all of this, his compassion and feeling for humanity survived.

Clearly, the story of JOHN SPARKMAN is more than merely a listing of his accomplishments. It is also a story of the nature of the man. His years in this body were during the "golden years" of the Senate—a time when it truly fulfilled its definition as the world's greatest deliberative body. Among the listing of the giants who dominated that era—Lyndon Johnson, Richard Russell, Sam Ervin, Henry Jackson, Robert Taft, Lister Hill, Everett Dirksen, John Stennis, and more—is clearly written the name of JOHN J. SPARKMAN.

This was the man of whom his longtime Alabama colleague, Jim Allen, spoke when he said:

> I know of no Member of the Senate, past or present, who has served his country with greater ability, greater dedication, and greater determination.

This was the man who was honored by an almost endless stream of tributes upon his retirement, when Strom Thurmond described him as "the epitome of integrity and determination", and Fritz Hollings referred to him as "one of my idols".

This was the man of whom Howard Baker said, "No man has been more dedicated to the people he represents".

And this was the man of whom his grandson, Tazewell Shepard III, speaking at the funeral, said, "He preferred to do good rather than to seem good".

"To do good rather than to seem good". Those few words tell a great deal about Senator SPARKMAN, a man whose seat I have been privileged to hold since his retirement, a man whose life and work provide a daily inspiration to me, a man who showed a statesman's capacity to grow and change as new times demanded new answers to new problems, yet a man who never abandoned his basic principles.

Late in his career, in a meeting with a group of businessmen, JOHN SPARKMAN was asked whether he felt cooperatives had outlived their usefulness. He could have answered noncommitally, since he knew his audience felt co-ops should go. That, however, was not in keeping with the basic principles which were so important to Senator SPARKMAN. Instead of giving a popular answer, his voice literally shook with indignation as he told the group how he remembered a time when people living in little shacks on the mountainsides of north Alabama and the farms of south Alabama didn't even have electricity or running water—until cooperatives like the TVA and the REA came along. Of course, it was little wonder that JOHN SPARKMAN would remember such houses—he grew up in one of them, and the values he learned there stayed with him always.

In his retirement statement, Senator SPARKMAN said that he took satisfaction in knowing that he had always done all he could for his State and country. In reality, he did much more, for JOHN SPARKMAN has left an imprint on this institution and this Nation that will long be remembered. We are poorer for having lost him, but much richer for having known him.

The Congress of the United States, in honoring Senator SPARKMAN, created the John J. Sparkman Center for International Public Health Education. I ask unanimous consent that a recent report of the accomplishments of this center, which is located at the University of Alabama in Birmingham, be printed in the Record. I further ask unanimous consent that an editorial from the Huntsville Times, following the death of Senator SPARKMAN, appear in the Record, as well as a very moving account of the funeral of Senator SPARKMAN written by Peter Cobun of the Huntsville Times appear in the Record.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

THE JOHN J. SPARKMAN CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION

BACKGROUND

Begun at UAB in 1980, the John J. Sparkman Center for International Public Health Education (SCIPHE) has as its mission to develop, provide, and promote programs and activities for training public health leaders in their own developing countries. SCIPHE collaborates with educational institutions, governmental agencies, international organizations and private foundations in the pursuit of these activities which are conducted primarily in technically deprived countries.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Major accomplishments of SCIPHE collaborative programs are as follows:

1. SCIPHE and the World Health Organization (WHO) have undertaken several projects to promote primary health care (PHC):

(*a*) The publication (in English, French, and Spanish) of "Education for Health", a semiannual newsletter for health educators/PHC workers.

(*b*) The development of "Manual on Health Education in Primary Health Care," a training manual for PHC workers.

(*c*) A workshop at UAB to evaluate health education-PHC training programs worldwide. This workshop is being followed by a number of regional workshops around the world to discuss the evaluation in relation to the training programs in various WHO regions. To date, workshops have been held in the Cameroons and Indonesia.

(*d*) The teaching of a PHC course at the UAB School of Public Health by a WHO consultant.

(*e*) The establishment of internships for UAB School of Public Health students.

(*f*) The implementation of field demonstration projects for health education in PHC in Mexico and possibly Nepal.

2. SCIPHE and the Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia (UPCH) in Lima, Peru, are working together to develop an academic public health program for UPCH. Towards this goal, UAB faculty are teaching a master of

public health (MPH) degree program in Lima for 20 UPCH faculty who will form the nucleus of the public health program there. In the area of research, UPCH and UAB School of Public Health faculty are collaborating on an NIH-supported research project regarding nutrition and dental health.

3. SCIPHE and the department of social and preventive medicine at the University of the West Indies (UWI) in Kingston, Jamaica, have been collaborating on several activities in the area of public health manpower development and training in the Caribbean:

(*a*) The development of an MPH program which began in the fall of 1985 at UWI.

(*b*) Workshops and seminars in epidemiology and occupational/environmental health for district medical officers and other key public health personnel in Jamaica.

4. SCIPHE, the International Union of Health Education and other international organizations sponsored an international conference on health education in Mexico City, Mexico, in 1985.

5. SCIPHE and the department of social medicine at the Universidad del Valle (UV) in Cali, Colombia, are beginning to enhance and/or develop programs at UV in social sciences, biostatistics, and environmental/occupational health.

6. SCIPHE, WHO, the University of Chiang Mai (Thailand) Faculty of Dentistry, and the Intercountry Center for Oral Health in Chiang Mai are planning to begin developing a training program for public health dentists. The program would include a series of short courses and an MPH degree program offered in Thailand by UAB faculty.

7. SCIPHE disseminates news of its activities through the "SCIPHE newsletter", a quarterly publication which has a circulation of 450.

8. SCIPHE shares its experiences with colleagues at professional meetings and in health-related journals. Two papers describing the organization of SCIPHE and its programs were presented at a conference in Chapel Hill, NC, on "Universities and International Health" in 1984. In addition, a number of articles describing SCIPHE activities have appeared in print from 1983 to the present.

CONCLUSION

With the anticipated finalization of plans to work with the institutions in Thailand, SCIPHE activities will indeed have spanned nearly all major areas of public health. Given the resources available, SCIPHE has developed a full and varied slate of projects it considers most feasible and worthwhile. The successes enjoyed to date are the result of hard work and dedication of SCIPHE-sponsored UAB faculty and their developing country counterparts who have joined forces to train leaders who will work to improve the health of all people worldwide.

[From the Huntsville (AL) Times, Nov. 17, 1985]

John Jackson Sparkman

The soft, cherubic face that lit into an endearing smile was not the mask but the real essence of John Jackson Sparkman, Hartselle native and Huntsville resident, whose bold hand helped shape midcentury America and the modern world of hopes and fears. Senator Sparkman died yesterday at 85.

He was a sensitive and gracious man, a son of a previous, more placid era. But he brought to the arenas of National Government and international diplomacy a tough persistence that laid the foundations for the prosperity and security now taken so much for granted in our time.

From humble origins, John Sparkman rose by innate determination to the stature of statesman in domestic and world affairs. He was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1936 and aligned himself with President Franklin D. Roosevelt to meet the challenges of the Great Depression—then smothering the Nation—and the death struggle of World War II. He was elected to the Senate in 1946 and promptly became influential in shaping the political design for the economic and social advances we enjoy today.

If it is currently fashionable to bemoan the intrusiveness of government in personal and public affairs, it is useful to recall that homeownership and adequate housing have not always been a benefit most Americans enjoy nor security in old age, nor modern health care, nor small business opportunity, nor farm-price stability, nor secure savings and sound credit. John Sparkman, in House and Senate, was an innovator or supporter of programs in all these fields.

If it is arch to ask where was he in the civil rights struggles of the 1960's, it is proper to say he was an advocate of social justice in a time and place that were out of joint.

His impact was of national, even worldwide scope. But his importance to the well-being of this city, this region, this State cannot be understated. His role is legend in fostering the space adventure, the technological revolution, the waterways, development so vital to this area and the strong defense so vital to the Nation.

His congressional leadership earned him the nomination for the vice presidency on the Democratic ticket in 1952, a time when not even the exceptional talents of a Sparkman and an Adlai Stevenson could withstand the tide of political change. In subsequent years, however, his renown and acumen earned him a place in the counsels of the United Nations and in international affairs as chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Through all the years, through all the trials of depression, war, recovery, social turmoil, trembling peace and cold war, Senator Sparkman worked to make better a harsh world.

The loss to his family and intimate friends is sad, and the condolences of the community and the Nation pour out to them. But a sense of gratitude and satisfaction will be the more enduring sentiment for the benefits he brought.

[From the Huntsville (AL) Times, Nov. 17, 1985]

JOHN SPARKMAN BURIED

(By Peter Cobun)

They buried a man who made a difference here Monday.

A man the famous came to mourn, but a man most remembered for helping the obscure.

Autumn's sun filtered through the defrocked branches of Maple Hill Cemetery, its 90 acres steeped in crisp, fallen leaves of red, orange, and yellow.

It was dressed in its best fall hues to play host to those who said goodbye to JOHN JACKSON SPARKMAN.

Senators and Congressmen and State and local officeholders lined the pews of the pristine white First United Methodist Church to hear the retired Senator eulogized by family and colleagues.

They heard a grandson recall his grandfather, the young lawye, who bolted the status quo during the Depression years to help the common man. They heard how JOHN SPARKMAN took the case of a poor black being sued by a white merchant.

"He represented that man and won," said grandson Tazewell Shepard III, from the church's pulpit. "It was an early example of how he helped people."

JOHN SPARKMAN, too, helped his grandson.

"I want to share with you two special gifts my grandfather left for me," Shepard told the hundreds of mourners who filled First United Methodist.

"His first gift was his time. He was never too busy to talk to me.

"The other thing he gave to me was his example. If I could pick one phrase to describe papa," said Shepard, "it would be that he preferred to do good rather than to seem good."

Shepard's father, Adm. Tazewell Shepard, Jr., of Washington, DC, told the congregation, "Let us celebrate the life of one that meant so much for so many people."

"No man," said SPARKMAN's longtime administrative assistant, Lewis Odom, "has had a greater impact on the people and the communities of this State than JOHN SPARKMAN.

"God bless you, Senator SPARKMAN," said Odom, "Alabama is a better place because you served her, and the Nation, and we are better people because of you".

The 25-minute afternoon church service concluded as the Sparkman family followed the casket, draped in white carnations and peach-colored roses, from the church.

Filing behind was a string of Alabama politicians, many who flew by special military aircraft to Huntsville for Monday's service: Senator Howell Heflin of Tuscumbia, Senator Jeremiah Denton of Mobile, retired Senator Jennings Randolph of West Virginia, Representative Ronnie Flippo of Florence, Representative Tom Bevill of Jasper, Representative Ben Erdreich of Birmingham, Representative Bill Nichols of Sylacauga. Former Congressman Bob Jones of Scottsboro was there, as were Alabama Secretary of State Don Siegelman and State Democratic Committee director Al LaPierre.

But at Maple Hill, some of Alabama's other citizens came, too, to remember JOHN SPARKMAN.

Young men in blue jeans, old women in tattered housedresses. They came over the stone cemetery walls to stand at the rim of dignitaries.

And they heard the Rev. Jerry Sisson as he stood at the Senator's grave. "We thank you, Lord," said Sisson, "for the man who made a difference."

Mr. DENTON. Mr. President, recently Alabama and this Nation lost a dedicated public servant, one whose talent and ability stood for years as a "Towering Oak" for Alabama in the U.S. Senate.

Here was a man who understood the Biblical parable of the talent. He started with no advantage except his God-given talents of initiative and intelligence. He used these talents and received others. The fruits of his labors have been enjoyed by not only his fellow Alabamians but by all the citizens of this Nation.

He was the seventh of 11 children. JOHN JACKSON SPARKMAN was born near the Tennessee Valley town of Hartselle, AL, on December 20, 1899. It was here he attended the proverbial "one-room" school, and it was here that he developed that "can do" attitude which characterized his life.

That attitude was evident when he enrolled at the University of Alabama with money secured by a bank loan on a cotton crop he raised in the summer of his high school senior year. It was evident again when, shortly after arriving in Tuscaloosa, he found a job for $4.20 a week and began what was to be an outstanding college career at Alabama, where he was Phi Beta Kappa, editor of the university newspaper, the Crimson and White, the founder and first president of the Gamma Alpha Chapter of the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity, and president of the student body.

JOHN SPARKMAN's college career was one of service to his university constituency, the first step toward a life of public service to a constituency which ultimately encompassed this entire Nation.

After earning three degrees at the University of Alabama, JOHN SPARKMAN practiced law and taught college for several years. He was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1936 and began his House career as a member of the Military Affairs Committee, which had jurisdiction over waterways. It was through this committee that he was instrumental in developing the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Upon the death of Senator John H. Bankhead, he became one of five candidates to compete for that unexpired term. On November 4, 1946, JOHN SPARKMAN emerged with the distinction of being simultaneously elected to both the U.S. House and Senate. He quickly resigned the U.S. House seat and became a Member of the U.S. Senate in the 80th Congress.

He is often known as "Mr. Housing", and he became, within 3 years, chairman of the Senate Housing Subcommittee, where he developed and sponsored the first "omnibus" housing legislation to provide direct Government loans for the building and purchase of homes for lower income families.

Such public housing as we have developed in America is largely a result of the efforts of JOHN SPARKMAN. Recognizing this, the National Association of Home Builders elected him to the Housing Hall of Fame in 1977.

Senator SPARKMAN's public career also included such accomplishments as writing tax and credit assistance for small businesses and much of modern regulatory law.

His international expertise was recognized in his chairmanship of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and his appointment as member of the U.S delegation to the United Nations. One of the high points in his career was surely his selection in 1952 as the Vice Presidential nominee, running on the Democratic ticket with Adlai Stevenson.

JOHN JACKSON SPARKMAN has been eulogized in many, many ways. Perhaps no truer words could characterize his life than the final words of the parable of the talents which I mentioned earlier: "Well done, good and faithful servant, you have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things."

That was the story of the life of that "Towering Oak," a faithful and distinguished public servant, who was in charge of so many things that touched our lives, and touched them effectively.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I am honored to join my colleagues today in paying tribute to a distinguished, able, and dedicated former Senator, JOHN SPARKMAN of Alabama, who died November 16, 1985.

Mr. President, JOHN SPARKMAN was a well-respected and highly regarded Member of this body for 32 years, and the fact that the Senate has today set aside time for remarks about his

life and career is a firm indication of the high esteem in which his colleagues and friends held him.

I was deeply saddened to learn of his passing on November 16, 1985. His devoted wife, Ivo, and his charming daughter Mrs. Tazewell Shepard and fine grandson, Tazewell Shepard III, and other members of the Sparkman family have been much in my thoughts and prayers during these past months. And my wife, Nancy, joins me in expressing our heartfelt sympathy to them for their loss.

A dedicated public servant, JOHN SPARKMAN served his State and Nation for over three decades. He proved himself to be an accomplished legislator of unswerving conviction and integrity. His leadership abilities gained my highest respect.

Mr. President, his many contributions during his chairmanship of the Senate Select Committee on Small Business included passage of the landmark bill which created the Small Business Administration. Later he also chaired the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee; and in January 1975, he was appointed chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the committee which was considered his most important.

Throughout his career, JOHN SPARKMAN was an intelligent and capable servant of the people. He truly served this Nation well and his legacy to America will be the long and productive years of legislative service which he gave to us here in Washington. I was privileged to have had the opportunity to watch him at work, and I enjoyed the benefit of the fine manner in which he approached each and every issue.

Mr. President, I feel a deep personal loss in his passing, and though we grieve the loss of our friend and colleague, I am honored to have the occasion today to praise this great American and his career as U.S. Senator, statesman, and patriot.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, it is an honor for me to join my colleagues today in this tribute to Senator JOHN SPARKMAN, who died last fall and who gave 42 outstanding years of public service to the Congress, the people of Alabama, and countless Americans around the country. His brilliant career in Washington spanned 10 years in the House of Representatives, where he rose to the position of majority whip, and 32 years in the Senate.

I also want to pay tribute today to Ivo Sparkman, the Senator's remarkable and wonderful wife of 62 years, and to their daughter Jan. There are many close ties of friendship and affection between the Sparkmans and the Kennedys, but one of the closest is that Senator Sparkman's daughter Jan is married to Admiral Taz Shepard, who was one of my brother Jack's good friends, and who served as naval liaison at the White House during the years my brother was President. Later Admiral Shepard wrote a remarkable book, "John F. Kennedy and the Sea," one of the most moving memoirs and tributes to my brother.

Here in the Senate, JOHN SPARKMAN was truly "Mr. Chairman". In the final years of his remarkable service, he was chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. At various other times in his long career, he also served as chairman of the Senate Housing Subcommittee, chairman of the Senate Banking Committee, and chairman of the Senate Small Business Committee. Together, these are four of the most important chairmanships in the Senate, and Senator SPARKMAN filled each of them with great distinction.

As a Representative and Senator, he was especially influential in the development of his State and region. His far-reaching ideas and his extraordinary vision helped to lay the foundation in the postwar years for the great industrial revolution in Alabama and throughout the Sun Belt.

Senator SPARKMAN's dedication to his State and country was evident in the high quality of the broad range of legislation which he authored to promote prosperity. To help small businesses compete fairly with big business, he authored the Small Business Act of 1953 and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958; under the latter legislation, tens of thousands of enterprises became the beneficiaries of the capital and credit generated by this historic legislation.

Other measures which he sponsored were designed to improve the economy of Alabama. As a result of his efforts, a number of industries such as paper, chemical, and shipbuilding located and prospered in Alabama. In addition, his emphasis on the construction of Alabama highways facilitated local and interstate transportation of his State's agricultural and industrial products. In turn, these new industries and facilities brought new capital, new job markets, new skills, and new

prosperity to the residents of Alabama. And much of that success was traced directly to the leadership of Senator JOHN SPARKMAN.

He was also a strong supporter of the Commodity Credit Corporation, which provided urgently needed crop insurance and other safeguards against financial loss, from crop damage and crop failure. With that sort of protection from the fears of financial ruin, a generation of American farmers were encouraged to remain in agriculture. How we miss JOHN SPARKMAN today, as we seek to rescue family farmers and the CCC from the hard times on which rural America has now fallen.

Most of all, perhaps, Senator SPARKMAN was respected by all of us as "Mr. Housing" in the Senate. For a quarter of a century, he was a pioneer in the development and implementation of an effective housing policy for the Nation, providing opportunities for decent homes and a better life for millions of Americans.

Finally, Senator SPARKMAN also earned the admiration and respect of the Nation for his role in the 1952 Presidential campaign as the Vice-Presidential nominee of the Democratic Party. He was not successful in that campaign, but few, if any Vice-Presidential candidates have been more respected or more affectionately remembered by voters of both parties.

And few if any of our colleagues left this Chamber with a more distinguished reputation or a more outstanding record of dedicated service to the Nation. JOHN SPARKMAN will rank as one of the greatest Senators of our time, and I am proud to have served here with him.

Mr. HATFIELD. Mr. President, today we are sensing in a deeper way the loss of our friend and colleague, JOHN SPARKMAN. We missed him when he retired from this institution but we mourn our loss at his passing away from us. Those of us who were privileged to serve with Senator SPARKMAN share the special grief of his family and of all who knew him well.

For we knew JOHN SPARKMAN as a man whose work in public office was founded on a profound personal faith in the God he so deeply loved, in the Constitution he had pledged to uphold, and in the people of Alabama he faithfully served. We knew him as a man not inclined to test the political winds before casting a vote. His guidance came from an unwavering commitment to the best interests of his State and the Nation. In

this he has been an example to many of us for whom the pressures of public life and public opinion often conflict with our best judgment of what is right.

JOHN SPARKMAN was a man who did not compromise on what was right. He was a man of honor, who considered the boundaries of political disputes to be the walls of this Chamber. Outside of them a political foe was often his personal friend. This was not a quality used simply for political advantage, but a true measure of the man's character—one that was displayed in all his relationships. A remarkable testimony to this fact came during a recent conversation that I had with my friend, Taz Shepard, Senator Sparkman's son-in-law. He noted that in 45 years he had never heard his father-in-law speak ill of anyone. The ability to overlook a dozen faults in a person and take note of one virtue is a sign of greatness.

We can never predict from whence such greatness of character will spring. In the case of Senator SPARKMAN it was from the soil of the experience of a southern tenant farm family with 11 children. In it were planted the strong roots of a life of service to others:

> Like a tree planted by streams of water, that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers. (Psalm 1)

I am grateful for having been nourished personally and politically by the fruit borne in the life of Senator JOHN SPARKMAN. His influence will not wither, but rather continue to bear fruit in many lives, and the work that he performed will continue to prosper. By virtue of his example, so, too, may our Nation and this institution which he loved.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, all of us in this body were saddened when we learned in November that our former colleague and friend, JOHN J. SPARKMAN passed away.

I was on the floor as acting minority leader the last day Senator SPARKMAN presided in the Chair in October 1978. He listened patiently as several of us thanked him for his counsel and friendship during his 42 years in the U.S. Congress. Finally, as if to say, "OK, fellas, that's enough," he interrupted and spoke very briefly.

The gentleman from Alabama, and Senator SPARKMAN was indeed one of the Senate's finest gentleman lawmakers, recalled that the most pleasing piece of legislation he authored

was the Soldiers and Sailors Civil Relief Act of 1942. He helped write this law as a Member of the House of Representatives, where he served for 10 years before coming to the Senate.

The 1942 law prohibited banks from foreclosing on homes or farms owned by men in military service. The former Senator from Alabama knew that the last thing our boys overseas needed to worry about was whether they were going to have a home to come back to once the war ended. Senator SPARKMAN deserves credit for protecting the American dream for those who risked their lives to protect this great country.

Senator SPARKMAN will always be remembered as a public servant who never forgot his fellow man. He was never too far away when the debate came to improving life in this country, particularly the rural areas of the United States. He was always extremely proud of the work he did to bring about the Rural Electrification Act.

Those of us from the very remote portions of our country are still grateful to him for that great foresight.

Throughout his career, our former colleague was known for his knowledge and expertise in housing, banking, and small business. Senator SPARKMAN chaired the Senate Select Committee on Small Business when it was created in 1950. He sponsored the landmark legislation that created the Small Business Administration.

Several years later, Senator SPARKMAN became chairman of the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee. But his keen intellect was not limited to the development of this Nation's housing and business programs. Our friend from Alabama saw the importance of encouraging space travel and exploration and was at the forefront of Federal Government involvement with this new frontier. Much of the credit for the initial NASA research goes to Senator SPARKMAN.

Dr. Ernest Stuhlinger, a member of the Wernher von Braun rocket team that built our Nation's first space rockets, said of our former colleague:

> He was intrigued by the things we (scientists) wanted to do. He was one of the first ones who saw the handwriting on the wall for the new space age.

Dr. Stuhlinger and the von Braun team worked at the Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, AL. Locating the flight center in Huntsville was just one of the many things JOHN

SPARKMAN did to help boost economic development in his native State. He aggressively supported the Tennessee Valley Authority and worked tirelessly for the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway project.

Mr. President, he worked equally well to help me as one of the new Senators in a new State admitted to the Union under very adverse circumstances, and we will never forget his assistance to us.

Mr. President, it is an understatement to say that JOHN JACKSON SPARKMAN served his State and his country well. He was truly a servant of all the people, a man of great dignity and solid character with whom it was a privilege to have served in the Senate. We all now mourn the loss of a man I am certain will always be a legacy in his home State of Alabama.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I take the opportunity today to commemorate one of our past colleagues who has truly been an inspiration to many of us. Senator JOHN SPARKMAN of Alabama died on November 16, 1985. His death is a sore loss and deeply felt.

JOHN SPARKMAN's achievements touched every issue. His fundamental beliefs were based on the ideals, interests, and inspirations central to our Nation. He advocated peace, democracy, liberty, and international cooperation both within this country and throughout the world. His devotion to the office, through 42 years of service, brought continuity to the U.S. Senate. Much of what we now take for granted in the international and domestic spheres came into existence with the help of his efforts. Some of Senator SPARKMAN's greatest accomplishments were in the realm of foreign policy, where his bipartisan politics helped to bridge the gap between the parties and brought about the accord necessary to pa[illegible]ifficult and sensitive legislation.

The passing of JOHN SPARKMAN has brought sorrow to those who knew him, but his life will bring wisdom to those who follow him.

Mr. WEICKER. Mr. President, on November 16, 1985, this country lost one of its most notable public servants with the death of former Senator JOHN SPARKMAN of Alabama. Senator SPARKMAN served in both the House and the Senate with equal distinction. He spent some 40 years representing his home

State of Alabama, dedicating his entire adult life to public service.

After Senator SPARKMAN's death, it was said that Alabama has lost a great treasure. In many ways, so has the Nation. I hope that other Americans will look at Senator SPARKMAN's distinguished career as a public servant and realize, as he did, that there is no greater honor than to serve one's country. JOHN SPARKMAN served his country well.

Mr. FORD. Mr. President, I rise to join in a tribute to a great American whose 42 years in Congress serve as a model of dedication, skill, and compassion.

Senator SPARKMAN, who died November 16, was already a legend when I came to the Senate in 1974. His work in foreign affairs was known worldwide as he pressed for a military balance of power as a means of peace. However, to Kentuckians and others in our region, it was his commitment to rural development which made an extraordinary difference in our lives.

JOHN SPARKMAN, the son of a tenant farmer, raised on an Alabama cotton farm, understood the needs, and the potential, of rural America. He was an original sponsor of the act which created the Tennessee Valley Authority, an agency which escorted a seven-State region into the 20th century. The Rural Electrification Administration also had his steady and heartfelt support.

Of course, the work of which JOHN SPARKMAN was probably most proud was that which earned him the revered title, "Mr. Housing". He understood the great feeling of pride and independence that homeownership provided. That understanding led the Senator, through legislation, to help millions achieve their own American dream through purchase of a home.

Upon his retirement in 1979, Senator SPARKMAN was quoted as saying, "I take satisfaction in knowing that I have always done all that I could for Alabama and for my country." Those are words to which every Member of this body can relate, as we strive to be able to make them our own upon retirement.

Our Nation owes a tribute to Alabama for giving us the likes of both JOHN SPARKMAN and Senator Lister Hill, a statesman who hailed from the same rural area in that State. I am certain that JOHN SPARKMAN took great comfort, upon his retirement,

in the fact that his office was being assumed by Howell Heflin, a Senator much in the honorable mold of his predecessors.

Senator SPARKMAN set an example in his service for all of us to follow. I am honored to have known him.

Mr. MATSUNAGA. Mr. President, I rise to join my colleagues in paying tribute to our late colleague, the former Senator from Alabama, JOHN JACKSON SPARKMAN. Senator SPARKMAN was a model lawmaker in many ways: a gentleman in the finest sense of the word, and one who avoided personal confrontation and offensive language even in times of great stress and heated argument.

His forbearance and negotiating skill identified him as one of the outstanding legislators of his era, as it was particularly evident in the field of housing. The post-World War II surge in housebuilding and homeownership was accomplished within the innovative legal framework he had constructed. He also championed the cause of small business and the preservation of the family farm, while with great foresight he legislated to make us a spacefaring Nation.

Mr. President, Senator SPARKMAN was a man with whom I could personally identify, for he was born to a poor farming family with many mouths to feed, and he had to struggle to gain an education. He brought to Washington a background in schoolteaching and the practice of law, and served for years in the House of Representatives before being elected to the Senate.

Having emerged from similar humble background, I saw in JOHN SPARKMAN a model for emulation, especially with regard to the respect he accorded to all of his congressional colleagues and everyone else he met. He came from a tradition of southern progressivism which has given our country some of its finest institutions and accomplishments, and he represented the "best and the brightest" of that tradition. Our great Nation is greater today because JOHN SPARKMAN served to make it so. As a beneficiary of his services, I extend my heartfelt condolences and deepest sympathy to his surviving family members.

Mr. PROXMIRE. Mr. President, the Senator from Alabama was that rare combination of a gentle man and a good politician. His southern courtliness ingratiated him to all. His keen

political sense seldom erred in counting the votes that were needed to win.

I knew him best as chairman of the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, a post he held for 7 years. He was a diligent chairman. Under his leadership, the Banking and Housing Committee regularly held hearings, developed its legislative record, completed markups of the bills before it, and got them approved by the Senate and the House. He was a chairman who had the confidence of his colleagues.

He was, in the best sense, a "laid back" chairman. He believed in letting everyone have his say—and then, he would somehow manage to get his way. He had a knack for making even the most divisive issues appear to be nonpartisan. After hearing everyone out, JOHN would lean forward and say, "Now, why don't we try this * * * ?" And, most of the time, everyone would.

Senator SPARKMAN was not given to making long speeches on the floor of the Senate. Nor was he a practitioner of the quotable quote to gain media coverage. He was not a man who enjoyed either direct confrontation or extended debate. His mode was to listen, and to meld different points of view into an acceptable compromise. He was a chairman who took pride in achieving a consensus within his committee, and gaining broad support for his committee's recommendations in the full Senate.

There is no better testimony to JOHN SPARKMAN's success as chairman, Senator, and gentleman than the typical response his Senate colleagues made when a banking-housing bill was brought up for vote: "If it's all right with JOHN, I'm for it * * *."

Mr. STAFFORD. Mr. President, like his colleague of so many years from my own State of Vermont—the late Senator George D. Aiken—JOHN SPARKMAN served his State and Nation long, but with quiet dignity. I, indeed, consider it a great honor to have served with both of them if even for a brief part of their distinguished careers.

Senator SPARKMAN, who died last November 16 at the age of 85, spent nearly half of that lifetime in the U.S. Congress, 12 years in the House of Representatives and 30 years here in the Senate. Since I am myself now in only my 26th year of con-

gressional service, I can say that to have served 42 years required a considerable amount of patience, understanding, and humor. JOHN SPARKMAN had those qualities and was indeed a real gentleman.

My closest personal relationship with Senator SPARKMAN came about through serving several times with him on the U.S. delegation to the Interparliamentary Union. As head of our delegation, he gained wide respect from legislators throughout the world.

Of course, here in this country he became known throughout the land in his capacity as chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, as a U.S. delegate to the United Nations and, most notably, as his party's nominee for the Vice Presidency in 1952.

I find it most fitting, however, that—despite these worldwide and national recognitions of achievement—the accomplishments JOHN SPARKMAN was most proud of as he pondered his long years of public service came in the field of housing. For in his 12 years as chairman of the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee, landmark legislation was approved which assisted thousands of Americans to secure the first home of their dreams. He took particular pride in helping people in rural America to share in this American dream.

Yes, JOHN SPARKMAN's advice and friendship were actively sought by several Presidents. He had been courted by kings and queens, and looked up to by parliamentary leaders throughout the world. And his party had nominated him for the second highest position in our land.

But JOHN SPARKMAN was most proud of the fact that he had helped make life a whole lot better for just a lot of average, poorer Americans. For all these reasons, I am honored to pay tribute to him here today.

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. President, when I think of JOHN SPARKMAN, I am reminded of the old Chinese proverb, "a journey of 1,000 miles begins with the first step." For JOHN's journey from Morgan County, AL, to the Vice-Presidential nomination of the Democratic Party in 1952 underscored his step-by-step advancement up the ladder of public service and exemplified his philosophy that if you work hard, use sound judgment, never forget where you came from, and use your God-given abilities, one's success can be unlimited.

This philosophy served him, his State, and his Nation well throughout his 42 years of service in Congress. It helped him become one of the forefathers of postwar American foreign policy and to serve as legislative craftsman of a bipartisan Federal housing policy for a Nation at last at peace. There are not many people who can lay claim to such laurels—but JOHN could.

Whether the Senator was in his church, with his family, chairing a hearing, or spending a Saturday with constituents, he was always taking one more step on that 1,000-mile journey—one step at a time—and I believe he is still on that path.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, it is the hope of every Senator who enters this Chamber that he or she will have a positive and enduring effect on the lives of the people of this Nation. Few have succeeded as did the late Senator JOHN JACKSON SPARKMAN in his 42 years of service in the Congress of the United States.

JOHN SPARKMAN served five terms in the House of Representatives, and held the leadership position of majority whip in the last, before his election to the Senate. His fine record in the House prepared the way for a distinguished career in the Senate. I was fortunate to begin my career in this Chamber before the close of JOHN SPARKMAN's in 1976.

Not just Alabamians, but all Americans owe a great deal of thanks to Senator SPARKMAN. He pioneered legislation in the areas of housing, small business and banking. Many families across the Nation own homes today because of Senator SPARKMAN's initiative. As chairman of the Select Committee on Small Business, he fought for the survival of the family-owned farm. With his help, Federal aid to education and veterans benefits brought hope and opportunity to many. In his role as chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, JOHN SPARKMAN recognized the absurdity of a costly and unnecessary arms buildup, calling it a ruinous rivalry.

I feel a deep sense of appreciation to Senator SPARKMAN for the legacy he left this Chamber. As much as JOHN SPARKMAN accomplished, it is how he achieved his goals that is significant. Senator SPARKMAN knew the value of cooperation and the importance of compromise in the Senate. In his concern for fair and responsible legislation, he worked to understand and

appreciate all points of view. In his own words, "You have to sit down with one another, talk things over, reason together."

Above all, Senator SPARKMAN's decisions were guided not by special interests, but by his conscience.

The greatest tribute we can pay Senator SPARKMAN in the Senate is to remember his political philosophy as we confront the difficult and critical agenda of the 2d session of the 99th Congress.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, on November 16, 1985, Senator JOHN J. SPARKMAN of Alabama died of a heart attack.

I extend my condolences to his family; his wife, Ivo Hall, and his daughter, Julia Ann.

While we are saddened by his passing, we will long remember his life and career and accomplishments. And we will long remember how he showed us that in 20th-century America, the American dream is indeed alive and well. This son of an Alabama tenant farmer, who entered the University of Alabama on money he obtained from a cotton crop he had raised, eventually became his political party's nominee for the Vice Presidency of the United States, and served a total of 41 years and 10 months first in the U.S. House of Representatives and then in the U.S. Senate.

Born near Hartselle, AL, in 1899, Mr. SPARKMAN was elected to the House of Representatives in 1936. During the decade that he served in the House, 1937–46, Mr. SPARKMAN fought for Social Security, the Tennessee Valley Authority, and farm loans, and served on the House Military Affairs Committee during World War II. In November 1945, he became the Democratic whip of the House of Representatives.

The next year, 1946, Mr. SPARKMAN became the only person in the history of the United States to be elected to both Houses of Congress at the same time. Subsequently, he resigned his seat in the House, and as a Senator, served the people of his State and the United States for nearly a third of a century.

Senator SPARKMAN supported the Marshall plan and Federal aid to education. Committed to the improvement of housing for all Americans, Senator SPARKMAN led the fight for housing legislation, including the landmark Housing Act of 1949. Millions of our fellow citizens now have decent housing because of his legislative efforts.

As chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Small Business, Senator SPARKMAN became a champion of small business. He authored the Small Business Act of 1953, the Small Business Investment Act, the Small Business Tax Act of 1958, and the Small Business Amendments of 1966–67, and sponsored the landmark bill that created the Small Business Administration. Said Senator SPARKMAN:

> When the little businessman gets hurt, this hurt is felt throughout the entire economy.

From 1967 to 1975, he served as chairman of the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. From 1975 to his retirement in 1979, he served as chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Largely because of his effectiveness on Capitol Hill and the esteem in which he was held here, in 1952, Senator SPARKMAN was selected to be the Democratic nominee for Vice President.

Upon the announcement of the retirement of Senator SPARKMAN, in January 1978, I remarked:

> His retirement will bring to a close one of the most distinguished careers in the Senate. * * * We shall miss our colleague.

And, indeed, we did miss his wisdom and leadership. Now we miss him personally.

But we will always have the memories of this good Senator from Alabama. More importantly, the people of his State, and all the people of this Nation, will continue to benefit from his very significant and substantial accomplishments.

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, much will be said today about Senator JOHN J. SPARKMAN's life and his many accomplishments. His long career in the Senate—and in the House of Representatives—was, as many of us in this Chamber can attest, marked by tremendous distinction.

It is of course true that few men have served their Nation in the Congress for as long as did JOHN SPARKMAN. His 42 years here—all but 10 in the Senate—made for at least one record: he was a Senator longer than any other person from his home State of Alabama. Those were years, Mr. President, that saw Senator SPARKMAN chair the Senate Select Committee on Small Business, the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, and, succeeding Senator J. William Fulbright, the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

Senator SPARKMAN was a recognized authority on public housing, and was for years the Senate's great voice on housing issues. He also was a strong believer in the value of bipartisan cooperation, especially in matters of foreign affairs. JOHN SPARKMAN was possessing of an extraordinarily keen mind, and it was his intelligence and powerful bearing that made him such an effective and respected leader. But even more, it was his sense of dignity and his exceptional character that endeared him to his colleagues at the Capitol, his constituents at home, and indeed to all of the Nation.

Mr. President, JOHN JACKSON SPARKMAN was a Member of this body whom we shall not soon forget. I hope my few imperfect words will convey to those members of his family here today the importance of his legacy to us all.

Mr. STENNIS, Mr. President, I was privileged to serve for 32 years with our late colleague, JOHN SPARKMAN.

He was an able and much admired colleague on whom we counted for guidance, particularly in the areas of banking and housing. He developed a wealth of knowledge in these areas from which all Senators drew sage advice and assistance. We knew we could trust his good judgment.

While we did not serve on the same committees, we were from neighboring States. He knew and understood the people of Alabama and, thereby, a great deal about the people of Mississippi. We worked closely and often on matters of common interest to Mississippi and Alabama.

He was a friend, a colleague, a neighbor, and most of all a Senator to whom all looked with respect. We miss his guidance but remember what he meant and still means to the Senate.

On such matters as the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Appalachian Regional Commission, and the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway, the people of both Mississippi and Alabama profited by his hard work and interest in the people of the region.

Mr. GLENN. Mr. President, I am pleased to have this opportunity to say a few words in remembrance of my distinguished colleague, Senator JOHN SPARKMAN.

JOHN SPARKMAN's life was one of strong commitment to this Nation, to public service, and to the less fortunate in this

world. There was a unique strength in JOHN SPARKMAN, who began life as 1 of 11 children of a tenant farmer in rural Alabama. He attended a one-room, one-teacher school, entered college from a loan on a cotton crop he had raised, and worked his way through the University of Alabama.

After completing his law degree, JOHN SPARKMAN practiced law in Huntsville until 1936 when he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. During his 10 years in the House, he worked to ease the plight of tenant farmers and was a strong supporter of the establishment of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

In 1946, due to an unusual set of circumstances, JOHN SPARKMAN became the only person in the history of this Nation to be elected to the House and the Senate simultaneously. He resigned from the House to serve in the Senate.

JOHN SPARKMAN's 32-year career in the Senate was impressive. In 1950, he became the first chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Small Business. During the 15 years that he served on that committee he was an important supporter of independent businessmen and was instrumental in the creation of the Small Business Administration.

In 1952, he was chosen as the Democratic Vice-Presidential nominee. Although defeated, JOHN SPARKMAN returned to the Senate and continued his work.

After his election to a third full term in the Senate, JOHN SPARKMAN became chairman of the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs and worked to pass housing bills so that all Americans could have the opportunity to obtain decent housing at an affordable cost.

In 1975, Senator SPARKMAN assumed the chairmanship of the Foreign Relations Committee. I had the privilege to serve under his leadership on that committee. He made numerous contributions to the committee until his retirement from the Senate in 1978. I am proud to have had the opportunity to work with Senator JOHN SPARKMAN, and am pleased to have the opportunity to pay this tribute to him.

Mr. PELL. Mr. President, it is extremely difficult for any speaker to find words of tribute adequate to describe the late Senator JOHN SPARKMAN. Those of us who have known and loved him, fear our words will pay scant justice to his memory.

JOHN JACKSON SPARKMAN came from the southland of this great Nation, from the low plateau region of northern Alabama that he loved so much. One of 11 children born to a poor tenant farmer, he strove to the utmost of his immense capacity to overcome his modest roots. He worked hard and steadfastly to help his family, and then drew further on his own abilities to support himself at the University of Alabama as he earned bachelor's, master's, and law degrees. After 10 years of practicing law in Huntsville, he was elected to the House of Representatives. A decade later, in 1946, he entered the Senate and in 1952 was chosen to be his party's Vice-Presidential candidate—a remarkable achievement by an extraordinary man.

In his famous funeral oration for the fallen warriors of Athens—Pericles once stated:

> Fix your eyes on the greatness of Athens as you have it before you day by day, fall in love with her, and when you feel her great, remember that this greatness was won by men with courage, with knowledge of their duty, and with a sense of honor in action, who, if they failed in any ordeal, disdained to deprive the city of their services, but sacrificed their lives as the best offerings on her behalf.

That ideal describes JOHN SPARKMAN, who dedicated 42 years of his life to dauntless public service to this Nation and to his countrymen. He never forgot his modest beginnings, which enabled him to bring to Washington an acute sensitivity to the needs of the ordinary man and a firm belief that government should help people do what they cannot do for themselves. As I listen to my colleagues catalog his myriad achievements in promoting small businesses, in aiding public education, in providing crop insurance for small farmers, in supporting veteran's benefits, rural electrification, and public housing projects, I cannot help but admire the compassion and understanding he had for the problems of everyday man. His public life was devoted to ensuring a better standard of living for all Americans.

It was during his tenure on the Foreign Relations Committee that I came to know and appreciate this kindly, soft-spoken man. He served on the committee for 27 years and was its chairman for the 94th and 95th Congresses. I, for one, can attest to the fact that, under his guidance, the committee and the Senate shaped foreign policy in many important ways.

During his chairmanship, the committee reported to the Senate 46 treaties, originated 58 public laws, and considered over 5,000 nominations. During this period, the work of the committee reflected his concerns about the world food shortage, the proliferation of nuclear weapons, and the need for closer cooperation in an interdependent world to solve our global problems.

I remember that Chairman SPARKMAN often stated that although the Senate does not make foreign policy it plays a crucial role in shaping it. He considered this role to be a critical responsibility. In a major foreign policy address delivered in 1975, he stated the following:

> • • • I have always believed—and continue to believe—that the primary foreign policy responsibility of the Senate is in its advice and consent function—the rendering of advice whether it is solicited or not, the granting or withholding of consent according to our own individual judgment. The essential requirement is independence. A Senator is constrained by no principle either of dissent or acquiescence. In rare instances of national emergency we may find it necessary to suspend judgment or delay scrutiny, but in all except these most extraordinary circumstances our duty toward the Executive is one of fair but rigorous scrutiny. We have neither the authority nor the resources to participate in the day-to-day conduct of foreign policy, but we are entrusted with both authority and responsibility to define the objectives and determine the direction of foreign policy, according to our own best judgment of the national interest.

In exercising this responsibility, JOHN SPARKMAN, did not take the easy road of political expediency. The Panama Canal Treaty is a clear case in point. A politically unpopular issue in the conservative South, under his leadership it passed through the committee to the floor of the Senate, where, after 38 days of intensive debate, it was approved by a substantial majority. That was an example of JOHN SPARKMAN, the statesman, knowing the importance of that treaty to our long-term relationships in Latin America resisting the powerful pressures of local politics.

As a member of the Foreign Relations Committee, JOHN SPARKMAN was particularly thoughtful and helpful to me. He was always scrupulously fair and encouraged all members to develop initiatives for committee action. He was assiduous in his efforts to promote the closest cooperation and understanding between the committee and the administration, whether Democratic or Republican.

These qualities are sorely missed. As Wordsworth so eloquently expressed in his "Intimations of Immortality":

> Though nothing can bring back the hour
> Of splendour in the grass, of glory in the flower;
> We will grieve not, rather find
> Strength in what remains behind;

JOHN SPARKMAN has left behind a rich life and legacy for us to treasure as consolation for his passing from this life. We shall all miss his gentle and kindly manner, and his deep and abiding concern for the American people. We must never forget what he stood for and loved: honesty, compassion, and freedom.

Mr. McCLURE. Mr. President, it is with both honor and sorrow that I stand here today to pay tribute to Senator JOHN SPARKMAN. The honor comes in being afforded the chance to speak on the floor of the U.S. Senate about one of the most distinguished men ever to serve in this body; the sorrow comes in the fact the tribute is a eulogy.

We remember Senator SPARKMAN, who passed away last November, as a statesman, family man, friend, and devoted public servant.

But there was something else—an intangible, if you will—that made JOHN more than a venerable Senator from the South. His manner, his speech, and his actions reflected his humble beginnings in Hartselle, AL. Though he rose to the heights of his country's Government, he never forgot his roots. He always looked out for the common man.

His political career spanned parts of five decades and the administrations of eight Presidents. In the U.S. House of Representatives, where he served from 1936 to 1946, he sat on the Military Affairs Committee and was majority whip in his last term.

In the Senate, where he served six terms before retiring in 1979, he was chairman of four committees and earned the moniker "Mr. Housing" because of efforts in shaping the Nation's urban renewal and housing policies.

Beginning with his work as the floor leader of the landmark Housing Act of 1949—which established the Federal Urban Renewal Program—he was responsible for virtually every piece of Senate-originated legislation on housing in the 1950's, 1960's, and 1970's.

But housing was not the only arena where Senator SPARKMAN left his mark. He fought for tax relief for small business and helped usher into law the Small Business Act of 1953, the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and the Small Business Amendments of 1966–67, among others.

In 1959, he introduced a bill to streamline enforcement of Federal Trade Commission orders against unlawful trade practices.

In his last term in the Senate he became a powerful voice in foreign affairs as well, and relinquished chairmanship of the Banking Committee to become chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee.

JOHN SPARKMAN manifested the American dream. He was born to an Alabama tenant farmer, worked his way through the University of Alabama, practiced law, and then forged a storied career in Washington—which saw his party nominate him as its Vice-Presidential candidate in 1952.

His accomplishments will be long remembered in this body, and most certainly, in Alabama.

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, it would be impossible for me to sum up the outstanding career of our friend and colleague Senator JOHN J. SPARKMAN in this short statement. However, I would like to make a few comments on the considerable talents and wisdom that JOHN SPARKMAN brought to this body during his 32 years in the Senate.

John Sparkman earned a reputation as one of the brightest and articulate Members this body has ever seen. He also earned a reputation for his ability to mediate, to compromise—to rise above the political fray and lead bipartisan efforts. His political philosophy, as many have often heard him say, was "You have to sit down with one another, talk things over, reason together." It was for this ability to compromise—as well as his conviviality—that he was chosen as Adlai Stevenson's running mate in the 1952 Presidential election.

JOHN SPARKMAN was one of the early populist southern liberals and, as such, left what was perhaps his greatest legislative mark as an advocate of public housing while serving as chairman of the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs from 1967 to 1974. As head of the Banking Committee, Senator SPARKMAN pioneered a host of legislation: The Housing Act of 1949, which established the Federal Urban Renewal

Program intended to revitalize America's cities; the Fair Credit Billing Act, which provides protection for both consumers and merchants; and the Small Business Act of 1953, which created Government loans and assistance for small businessmen.

Senator SPARKMAN will also be remembered for his role as chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee. He led this committee honorably and as he thought it should be led, refusing to succumb to any criticism that might have come his way. He believed that the President, not Congress, should be the one to shape foreign policy, and supported a strong bipartisan foreign policy, voting for NATO and the Marshall plan aid program.

During the 10 years he served in the House of Representatives, JOHN SPARKMAN fought for the Tennessee Valley Authority, farm loans, and Social Security. During World War II, he was a leader on the old House Military Affairs Committee and was also elected the House democratic whip.

Perhaps JOHN SPARKMAN's arrival in his career—as a long-esteemed public servant—is less important than his starting point in life. In many ways he epitomizes the American dream. As the seventh of a tenement farmer's 11 children, he spent his early childhood in a four-room log house in rural Alabama. He studied by kerosene light, walked 4 miles each way to high school and worked his way through the University of Alabama, where he eventually got his B.A., his master's, and a law degree. He worked his whole way through school—tending furnaces and the like—but still managed to serve as student body president, edit the school newspaper and be elected Phi Beta Kappa. And somewhere between school and entering Congress, he managed to teach at Huntsville College, served his country honorably in World War II, and practice law.

It goes without saying that I could keep going for hours about the strong character, solid values, and diligent hard work of JOHN SPARKMAN. But suffice it to say that I and my esteemed colleagues will miss JOHN SPARKMAN, but we will never forget his fine example.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I want to pay my respects, as my colleagues have, to the memory of JOHN J. SPARKMAN.

JOHN SPARKMAN's more than 20 years in the Senate spanned one of the greatest periods of change in this Nation's history. And JOHN SPARKMAN kept pace with this changing world,

whether it was in the area of public housing, small business, foreign affairs, or campaign reform.

Under his leadership in the Senate Banking and Housing Committee, Congress adopted landmark legislation establishing the Federal Urban Renewal Program. SPARKMAN was also instrumental in gaining passage of truth-in-lending legislation, which required lenders to provide full information about the cost of credit.

SPARKMAN became most prominent on the national scene in 1952 when he ran as Adlai Stevenson's Vice-Presidential running mate.

During his final years in the Senate, JOHN SPARKMAN was best known as chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee. SPARKMAN was a consistent voice against Communist aggression. He believed that the way to better relations between the Communist and Free world was through trade.

Whatever the subject, JOHN SPARKMAN brought his intelligence, his common sense, and his love of country to bear. JOHN SPARKMAN was a true gentleman, and a fine U.S. Senator. Those of us who served in the Senate with him know what a dedicated public servant and fine American he was.

Mr. MATHIAS. Mr. President, in the two centuries of the history of this Republic, there have been many members of the U.S. Senate and a few U.S. Senators. JOHN SPARKMAN was among the latter.

JOHN SPARKMAN, long and devoted service to the U.S. Congress was a remarkable symbol of his deep-rooted concern for the welfare of the country. Few can match his record of 10 years in the House of Representatives and 32 years in the Senate, where he ended his career as chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee. In 1952 he was the Democratic nominee for Vice President with Adlai Stevenson. It was my privilege to serve with him and it is now my privilege to carry on some of the programs and participate in organizations which he helped create. The country is in his debt; I personally feel an immense sense of graditude for his vision.

As the President of the North Atlantic Assembly, it is appropriate to recall with appreciation and admiration that JOHN SPARKMAN was one of its founders. He was an early supporter of the North Atlantic Pact, the Marshall Plan, and efforts to strengthen Europe and our relationship with it in the early

days of the Cold War. He strongly backed the creation of the United Nations. His statesmanship still serves as a model to all of us on the Foreign Relations Committee.

Two domestic issues were very important to JOHN SPARKMAN throughout his career. He cared deeply about small businessmen and worked for their prosperity and well being. He also believed in fair and adequate housing and supported the Nation's first Housing Act in 1937, the year he entered Congress. He continued work in this field through the Federal Urban Renewal Program and through advocacy of a standard for adequate housing. I like to think that I help to carry on his ideals through my work for fair housing legislation.

JOHN SPARKMAN of Alabama was an inspiration to many of us as we began our public service in Congress. I admired him tremendously, I am thankful for his inspiration, and I miss his guidance and friendship.

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Proceedings in the House

WEDNESDAY, *November 20, 1985.*

Mr. FASCELL. Mr. Speaker, I want to join my colleagues in honoring the memory of a distinguished Alabamian and a great American, JOHN J. SPARKMAN, who died of a heart attack on November 16 at the age of 85.

To those who remember the 1952 election JOHN SPARKMAN will be remembered as Adlai Stevenson's Vice-Presidential running mate. I will remember his primarily as a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the counterpart to the committee I chair, and eventually as its chairman. During my House career, in fact, I spent many hours with Senator SPARKMAN in conference and always found him to be a man of warmth, reason, fairness, and understanding. While we did not always agree on every issue, JOHN SPARKMAN believed, as I do, in a bipartisan foreign policy—and he was faithful to that principle until his retirement in 1978.

It is interesting to note that JOHN SPARKMAN was elected six times to the House and six times to the Senate. He also served longer in the Senate than any other person from the State of Alabama. That says something about how he was regarded by the people he served—with dedication and great ability.

To Senator Sparkman's beloved widow, Ivo, his daughter Julia Ann Shepard, and grandson, Tazewell T. Shepard, I extend my deepest sympathy.

THURSDAY, *December 5, 1985.*

Mr. FLIPPO, Mr. Speaker, I join with my colleagues from Alabama in paying tribute to the late Senator JOHN SPARKMAN,

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whose distinguished service to Alabama in this Chamber and in the Senate spanned 42 years, from 1936 to 1978.

By any measure, JOHN SPARKMAN was a national leader in the truest sense of the term, for he left to our Nation a lasting reminder of his work.

Elected in 1936, he saw in the New Deal a means to bring his native South closer to sharing in the mainstream of American life. He was an early and forceful proponent of the Tennessee Valley Authority and the Rural Electrification Administration.

His commitment to affordable housing resulted in far-reaching legislation enabling thousands of Americans to own their own homes. He was the architect for every major housing bill following World War II including legislation creating the Federal Housing Administration.

He saw a positive role that Government could play in encouraging small business entrepreneurship. Legislation creating the Small Business Administration bore the signature of SPARKMAN's craftmanship.

His tenure as chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee carried us through one of our most difficult periods as a Nation.

His contributions to this body went beyond his considerable legislative skills. He brought with him an invariable wit, southern charm, and a compassionate sense of what was right and wrong.

For anyone who endeavors to serve who makes a commitment to serve as JOHN SPARKMAN did, perhaps the best epithet of all is the simplest: He knew his people * * * and served them well.

[From the Huntsville (AL) Times, Nov. 17, 1985]

JOHN JACKSON SPARKMAN

The soft, cherubic face that lit into an endearing smile was not the mask but the real essence of JOHN JACKSON SPARKMAN, Hartselle native and Huntsville resident, whose bold hand helped shape midcentury America and the modern world of hopes and fears. Senator SPARKMAN died yesterday at 85.

He was a sensitive and gracious man, a son of a previous, more placid era. But he brought to the arenas of national government and international diplomacy a tough persistence that laid the foundations for the prosperity and security now taken so much for granted in our time.

From humble origins, JOHN SPARKMAN rose by innate determination to the stature of statesman in domestic and world affairs. He was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1936 and aligned himself with President Franklin D. Roosevelt to meet the challenges of the Great Depression—then smothering the Nation—and the death struggle of World War II. He was elected to the Senate in 1948 and promptly became influential in shaping the political design for the economic and social advances we enjoy today.

If it is currently fashionable to bemoan the intrusiveness of government in personal and public affairs, it is useful to recall that homeownership and adequate housing have not always been a benefit most Americans enjoy, nor security in old age, nor modern health care, nor small business opportunity, nor farm-price stability, nor secure savings and sound credit. JOHN SPARKMAN, in House and Senate, was an innovator or supporter of programs in all these fields.

If it is arch to ask where was he in the civil rights struggles of the 1960's, it is proper to say he was an advocate of social justice in a time and place that were out of joint.

His impact was of national, even worldwide scope. But his importance to the wellbeing of this city, this region, this State cannot be understated. His role is legend in fostering the space adventure, the technological revolution, the waterways development so vital to this area and the strong defense so vital to the Nation.

His congressional leadership earned him the nomination for the Vice Presidency on the Democratic ticket in 1952, a time when not even the exceptional talents of a SPARKMAN and an Adlai Stevenson could withstand the tide of political change. In subsequent years, however, his renown and acumen earned him a place in the counsels of the United Nations and in international affairs as chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Through all the years, through all the trials of depression, war, recovery, social turmoil, trembling peace and cold war, Senator SPARKMAN worked to make better a harsh world.

The loss to his family and intimate friends is sad, and the condolences of the community and the Nation pour out to them. But a sense of gratitude and satisfaction will be the more enduring sentiment for the benefit he brought.

[From the Decatur (AL) Daily, Nov. 17, 1985]

SPARKMAN DIDN'T FORGET

JOHN SPARKMAN helped guide this Nation through some of its most difficult times during his almost 42 years in the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives. He counseled Presidents, he helped shape world events, he ran for Vice President. Powerful and complex though he was, SPARKMAN was from simple beginnings, and never forgot that.

Looking back on his years of public service in 1979 when he retired, SPARKMAN said that the accomplishments he was most proud of were in housing. He took immense satisfaction in driving through rural areas and seeing nice brick homes that were built as a result of housing legislation he sponsored. He be-

lieved that every American family that wanted a home should be able to afford it.

SPARKMAN died Saturday morning in Huntsville. He had been in failing health in recent years and did not get to keep in contact with many of his decades-long friends he made through his public service. Those who did see him said he relished talking about the good old days, the days when he rubbed elbows with world political figures and when he was at the hub of power. Yet he talked about it without bragging, with a sense of wonderment that a Morgan County lad, born and reared in rural Mount Tabor, near Hartselle, could have seen what he saw, done what he did, or be asked to run for the office that is but a heartbeat away from the Presidency.

He graduated from Morgan County High School at Hartselle and from the University of Alabama. SPARKMAN was elected to the House of Representatives in 1936 and served there for a decade before being elected to the Senate where he served until he retired in 1979.

He was the Democratic nominee for Vice President of the United States in 1952 as Adlai Stevenson's running mate when they lost to war hero Dwight Eisenhower and a young California Senator, Richard Nixon. It was the only race he ever lost except when he ran the first time for president of the student body during college days at the University of Alabama.

SPARKMAN was known as "Mr. Housing" during his 12 years as chairman of the Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee which he gave up in 1975 to become head of the Foreign Relations Committee.

While he ran as a moderate southerner on the ticket with a liberal former Illinois Governor, SPARKMAN was noted for getting along with people. He fought racial integration but maintained warm relationships with Presidents and Senators because they respected him. He was honorable and he was a gentleman.

When Senator Edward Kennedy (Democrat–MA), came to Hartselle in 1979 for the dedication of the John Sparkman Civic Center he said "History will honor him for his wisdom as one of the principal architects of American foreign policy in the postwar world."

SPARKMAN's philosophy was to think of Alabama first and the Nation second and then try to reconcile the two. "If I can reconcile them both, I have my answer," he once said.

North Alabama would not be what it is today if SPARKMAN had not held firmly to that philosophy. Huntsville would have remained a sleepy small town on the Tennessee River and the Nation's rockets would have been developed elsewhere.

Perhaps it is trite to say that JOHN SPARKMAN was from the old school of politics. Perhaps it is unfair to say that today's younger officeholders lack the charm, the rapport, the ability to deliver, the respect of their peers that JOHN SPARKMAN possessed.

He was truly a remarkable man who would work just as hard for a struggling young businessman through the Small Business Administration as he would for one of his banker friends.

The Senator had no regrets about his career in Washington. He said there was "no place I'd follow a different course."

Not many of us can say that, even those of us who have had far fewer opportunities to travel a different course.

We are our own harshest critic. His was an immensely self-satisfying career, one in which he brought good to others. He had a good life and he knew it.

Mr. DICKINSON. Mr. Speaker, when Senator JOHN SPARKMAN's funeral services were conducted 2 weeks ago, at Huntsville's First United Methodist Church, Alabama was bidding adieu to one of her most outstanding native sons.

Born on a farm near Hartselle, in Morgan County, JOHN SPARKMAN lived a life that was distinguished with public honors.

He spent over 40 years serving Alabama, first as Congressman and then as a Senator.

As Congressman, JOHN SPARKMAN served five terms from 1937 to 1947, and rose to become majority whip.

He was elected to the Senate in 1946 and served until the late 1970s when he had risen to become chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Many things can be said about JOHN SPARKMAN, but most important to the people of Alabama were his efforts to improve rural housing and attract industry.

SPARKMAN, for instance, almost single-handedly brought Redstone Arsenal to Huntsville and established Alabama as a center for advanced research.

Because of his efforts Marshall Space Flight Center also came to Alabama.

SPARKMAN's greatest contribution, however, occurred halfway through his congressional career in 1952.

It was then that SPARKMAN became the first southerner since the "War of Northern Aggression" to become a viable candidate on a national major party ticket.

By running for national office, SPARKMAN helped to reestablish in the national mind, the integral part the South plays in our Nation, and the future southern politicians could again have in American life.

In short, JOHN SPARKMAN played a part on the national scene that all Alabama can be proud of.

Mr. ERDREICH. Mr. Speaker, Alabama and the entire Nation recently lost a good friend, and outstanding statesman, and a great American.

During his 42 years of service as Alabama representative in the House and Senate, JOHN SPARKMAN proved to be a leader who served with wisdom and compassion. He was elected to the House in 1936, and served in the Senate from 1946 until 1979, representing the State of Alabama longer than anyone in the State before or since.

He was an influential force in fields of the banking and housing industries, leaving his indelible mark on legislation affecting both areas that is still apparent today. His many years of service earned him a position of seniority that enabled him to command the powerful post of chairman of the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs from 1967 through 1974. He was known as an expert in the field of housing, and as a champion of housing development. Countless people throughout Alabama and the Nation have been able to purchase homes because of Senator SPARKMAN's tireless work to make decent, affordable housing available to all citizens.

Senator SPARKMAN served as chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business, and was credited with doing more for developing tax and credit assistance for small businesses than any other Member of the U.S. Senate. In his last 5 years in the Senate he assumed the chairmanship of the prestigious Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Born in 1899 to a family of 11 children on a tenant farm in Morgan County, AL, JOHN SPARKMAN never forgot the common man, tirelessly working throughout his 42 years in Washington to help bring a better standard of living for all Americans.

JOHN SPARKMAN will always be remembered as one of Alabama's most distinguished and accomplished representatives. He felt strongly that government was created to fairly serve the interests of all, not just a few. His death is a loss to all Alabamians and the Nation.

Following are editorials that appeared in the Birmingham Post-Herald and the Birmingham News on JOHN SPARKMAN's remarkable life and acomplishments.

[From the Birmingham (AL) Post-Herald, Nov. 19, 1985]

JOHN SPARKMAN

When he was at the height of his political power, Senator JOHN SPARKMAN, who died over the weekend at age 85, helped give Alabama one of the strongest one-two congressional punches ever seen in Washington.

Together with Senator Lister Hill, SPARKMAN helped reshape this State through his ability to bring Federal projects to Alabama. Huntsville's space industry is a direct result of his work. And although he wasn't one of the creators, the Tennessee Valley Authority prospered and grew because of his efforts. Birmingham's public housing program is still another result of his efforts.

But this son of a Morgan County tenant farmer did not limit himself to looking after the interests of his home State. He became a leading national figure in the areas of housing, banking, and small business. Indeed, this country's policies in all three areas were primarily his creation for nearly three decades.

We have SPARKMAN to thank for the boom in home ownership that began following World War II, for rural electricifation and many other programs that have improved our well-being.

SPARKMAN was also active in foreign policy, serving on the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations from 1951 until his retirement in 1979 and as a delegate to the United Nations in 1950 and 1951. Although he did not become chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee until 1975, when he was far past his political prime, his earlier contributions helped this country adjust to a role of global leadership.

SPARKMAN came out of a political tradition that was overshadowed—even rejected—during the Civil Rights era. He was a progressive, even a liberal, one of many that Alabama sent to Congress before the question of race came to dominate all political issues and southern politicians began calling themselves "conservative". He believed that government should help people do what they were not able to do for themselves.

Although he joined other southern politicians in opposing civil rights legislation—to do otherwise would have ended his public service—SPARKMAN was not a demagogue on the issue. This combined with his views on nonracial issues made him a logical nominee for Vice President in 1952, during an era when Democrats tried for geographic balance.

It can be argued that the Senator stayed in office longer than he should have. His effectiveness declined during the last several of his 42 years in Congress as age caught up with him.

But there should be no argument that in his prime SPARKMAN was one of the Senate's leading Members. And that was in an era when Congress exercised much greater leadership in shaping Government than it does at present.

JOHN SPARKMAN served this State and Nation well. He worked to make Government serve the people. His legacy can be seen throughout our society.

[From the Birmingham (AL) News, Nov. 18, 1985]

SPARKMAN'S SERVICE

Former U.S. Senator JOHN JACKSON SPARKMAN, one of the most influential politicians ever to come out of Alabama and a major architect of the Nation's postwar housing program, has died. He was 86.

He served his State and Nation well from the depths of the Great Depression through the upheaval of the Vietnam war. He was among the last survivors of a great generation of Alabama representatives in Washington that had included his longtime Senate colleague Lister Hill, Hill's successor Jim Allen, and several strong leaders in the House of Representatives.

SPARKMAN retired in 1978 after serving in Congress for 42 years. He had spent 32 of those years in the Senate, longer than any other Alabaman. The only political defeat of his illustrious career came in 1952, when he was the Vice Presidential nominee on the Democratic ticket headed by Adlai Stevenson.

While that nomination put SPARKMAN in the national limelight, his real influence came in the Halls of Congress, where he was recognized as a champion of the small businessman, the Tennessee Valley Authority, Marshall Space Flight Center and, especially, as "Mr. Housing".

He served many years as chairman of the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Development Committee, a post he used to develop and promote legislation to encourage homebuilding and homeownership.

He gave up that assignment in 1975 to become chairman of the more prestigious Senate Foreign Relations Committee, a fitting position for a senior statesman who, in addition to his 24 years on the committee, had served as a U.S. delegate to the United Nations and as one of the negotiators of the peace treaty with Japan.

SPARKMAN, born in a Morgan County log cabin, studied law at the University of Alabama, where he was elected president of the student government association and edited the student newspaper. After practicing law in Huntsville, he was elected to the House in 1936.

Ten years later, he had been nominated for another House term when Senator John Bankhead died. To keep the House seat from falling into Republican hands while he sought a place in the Senate, SPARKMAN ran for and was elected to both Houses of Congress at the same time—a unique achievement in the annals of Alabama history.

As he approached retirement, SPARKMAN said he took satisfaction "in knowing that I have always done all that I could do for Alabama and my country." He did a tremendous amount of good, and set a lofty standard for all who follow in his path of service.

Mr. BEVILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to a very outstanding statesman and a great American, former U.S. Senator JOHN SPARKMAN, who died in November, was one of the most powerful and influential Alabamians to ever serve our State. During his 42 years in Congress, JOHN SPARKMAN used his political know-how to help develop Alabama. He was re-

sponsible for bringing Federal projects to the State such as the space industry in Huntsville. He looked after Alabama, but he served the Nation as well.

He was known in the Senate as "Mr. Housing." I heard him say many times that everywhere he went in the United States, you could see public housing projects that he had a role in providing. He crafted the Nation's public housing legislation and had a hand in writing almost all of the modern banking regulatory laws. He helped develop tax and credit assistance for small businesses and pushed bills through Congress that provided funds for rural electrification projects. He was an early supporter of the Tennessee Valley Authority. JOHN SPARKMAN left a legacy of fine service to Alabama and to our Nation. His accomplishments will remain with us always.

Personally, I will remember Senator SPARKMAN for his kindness to newcomers. When I first came to Congress, Senator SPARKMAN said, "Tom, if there is anything I can do to assist you, let me know." That meant a lot to me. A new Member needs help, and he helped me a lot.

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, in the past 12 months, our State had mourned the loss of three dedicated, decent men who were favorite sons of Alabama. I am referring to the late Senator Lister Hill, of Montgomery, who passed away in mid-December 1984, the late Representative Armistead Selden, of Greensboro, who passed away in mid-November of this year, and most recently, the late Senator JOHN SPARKMAN of Hartselle, who passed away on Saturday, November 16, 1985.

All three of these men served their State and country well.

All three fought in the legislative trenches here in Congress. Like the two of us, Mr. Speaker, all three of them experienced victory as well as defeat.

And all three of these patriots, etched their names permanently into our history books for three very simple reasons. In their own unique and individual ways, all three men grew in stature with their constituents. This is because with each passing year, and certainly after every legislative accomplishment, these men became a bit wiser with experience, their determination to do what was right became stronger after witnessing what was wrong, and their courage to defend the basic American values and principles was strengthened because each

fought for a cause that was greater than himself. Their lives were spent for the betterment of all mankind.

Today, I would like to pay a special tribute to Senator JOHN SPARKMAN.

Upon his retirement in 1979, Senator Sparkman had devoted 42 years of his life to service here in the Congress. He was first elected to the House in 1936. Ten years later, in 1946, he became the only person ever to be elected to both Chambers simultaneously. Given the choice, he decided to serve his State in the U.S. Senate, where he was reelected to four more consecutive, 6-year terms.

JOHN SPARKMAN left a distinguished mark on our State and on all of our people.

Of the nine Members of the Alabama congressional delegation, only three, Congressmen Bevill, Dickinson, and Flippo served during Senator SPARKMAN's tenure in office. I note this for I believe it is sad that his service ended so recently, and yet so many of Alabama's present and future leaders will never have an opportunity to work directly with him.

Yet, Senator SPARKMAN's legacy will live on forever.

In his early years here in Washington, JOHN SPARKMAN became known as an expert on housing. Having grown up on a tenant farm himself, he once said his primary goal in life was to help less fortunate people have greater opportunities so that they, too, could achieve in society.

Let it be said once again, JOHN SPARKMAN was both a noble and a decent man.

In 1952, he offered himself to a task loftier than many of us ever dream. That year, he was the nominee of his party for Vice President of the United States. Losing was not a familiar work in his vocabulary, and that election was his only defeat.

As is true of most great leaders, Senator SPARKMAN provided a link to our past yet led with a vision for our future. He came to the Senate filling the seat of the late Senator John A. Bankhead. We all know the many contributions the Bankhead family has made to this body and this country.

But as was so often the case, Senator SPARKMAN took advantage of the opportunities given him and with persistence and hard work, he began developing an agenda that proved to be ahead of his time. Mr. Speaker, much of the credit for the initial work of NASA research goes to Senator JOHN SPARKMAN.

His accomplishments numbered many. My purpose today is not to try to list them all.

Let me close by simply saying that today, so many of us are busy looking for new heroes to replace those men and women who have been taken from our presence. As in the case of Alabama's Senator JOHN SPARKMAN, let us not try to compare one record with another or one accomplishment to many. We have lost a man who indeed gave so much for his fellow man. His loss of life is our loss of a friend and leader.

On behalf of the people of south Alabama, let me add my sincerest sympathy to his widow, Ivo Hall Sparkman, his daughter, Julia Ann Shepard, and his grandson Tazewell T. Shepard III.

God bless each of you during this time of loss.

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. Speaker, it is with both great sadness and a deep sense of honor that I rise to pay tribute to former U.S. Senator JOHN JACKSON SPARKMAN, a dominant figure on the national political landscape; a leading statesman of my home State of Alabama who served its people as an elected officer for 42 years; and a man who was esteemed, admired, and respected by all who knew him.

Today, we celebrate his life and his service. It is important to remind ourselves of the nature of this man and of the magnitude of his accomplishments, and to record them for those who did not know Senator SPARKMAN, that they might understand how he came to a place of such high standing in his colleagues' and his countrymen's eyes.

Born in 1899 near Hartselle, AL, as 1 of 11 children, Senator SPARKMAN's life personified the glory and unlimited opportunity of the American experience. A man who worked to put himself through school, he rose purely on the merits of his own intelligence, diligence, and caring. In 1917, using the proceeds from the sale of a cotton crop he had grown, he enrolled in the University of Alabama. He thrived on challenges, and learning, evident by his bachelor's, master's, and law degrees at the University.

After practicing law and teaching college for several years, he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1936. During his five terms in the House, he served on the Military Affairs Committee. In his last term as a Member of this body, he served in the leadership position of majority whip.

In 1946, he was elected to fill the unexpired term of Senator John Bankhead and was returned to the House in the same vote. He resigned his House seat becoming the only man in history to be elected to the House and Senate concurrently.

The only political defeat of his illustrious career came in 1952 when he was the Vice-Presidential nominee on the Democratic ticket headed by Adlai Stevenson.

While that nomination put SPARKMAN in the national limelight, his real influence came in the Halls of Congress where he was recognized as a champion of the small businessman, the Tennessee Valley Authority, Marshall Space Flight Center, and especially as "Mr. Housing".

Senator SPARKMAN served for many years as chairman of the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Development Committee, a post he used to develop and promote legislation to encourage homebuilding and homeownership. He gave up that assignment in 1975 to become chairman of the prestigious Senate Foreign Relations Committee, a fitting position for a senior statesman who in addition to his 24 years on the committee, had served as a U.S. delegate to the United Nations and as one of the negotiators of the peace treaty with Japan.

Senator SPARKMAN's public record is well documented. He has permanent living memorials across the Nation and throughout Alabama. Senator SPARKMAN was in all things a man of the people. Although he spent a lifetime in our Nation's Capital, he did so without ever leaving the countryside of Alabama. He knew, and was known, in every town and county.

As he approached retirement, which occurred in 1978, Senator SPARKMAN said he took satisfaction "in knowing that I have always done all that I could for Alabama and my country." When a Member of Congress leaves this body, he leaves behind a legacy of his contributions to his country, to his fellow Americans, to his State, and in many cases, to mankind throughout the world.

Alabamians lost a true patriot with the death of former Senator JOHN SPARKMAN. We will always remember him with great fondness and gratitude for his service to the people of Alabama. I know his memory and the fruits of his work will continue to live on.

Senator SPARKMAN is survived by his wife, the former Ivo Hall; a daughter, Mrs. Tazewell T. Shepard II, of Washington, DC; and a grandson, Tazewell T. Shepard III, of Huntsville. My warmest and deepest sympathy is certainly extended to these family members.

Senator JOHN SPARKMAN's life should serve as a memorial to him for all time in the State of Alabama, for he truly devoted it to serving the people and profession that he loved.

Mr. NICHOLS. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to respond to the passing of a great American—my friend, and longtime Senator from the State of Alabama, Hon. JOHN J. SPARKMAN.

JOHN SPARKMAN was indeed a giant in so many fields of endeavor. In the years that he served in the House of Representatives, and later in the U.S. Senate, he was a champion that all the Democratic Party stands for, and was named as our Vice-Presidential candidate in the convention of 1954. He stood for everything good in behalf of the people of this country—in the fields of public housing, education, and agriculture, as well as foreign affairs.

It was my pleasure to serve with him as a member of the Alabama delegation for many years, and he was especially attentive for programs serving the great Tennessee Valley area embracing his home in Huntsville, AL.

On a more personal aspect, Mr. Speaker, in all probability, I stand in the well of this House truly because of the support the then Alabama Congressman provided during some difficult days in World War II. Following combat injuries suffered in Germany, my parents in Alabama had been advised by mutual friends that knew of my condition that I needed to be evacuated back to the States, and a few years ago in going through my mother's old papers I ran across the following telegram, "I am pleased to advise that your son, 1st Lt. William F. Nichols, has today been air evacuated from 45th Station Hospital England to Mitchell Air Force Base Hospital in New York. Our office was pleased to have contacted the surgeon general U.S. Army on his behalf. Congressman JOHN SPARKMAN." So I know you can understand the devotion and appreciation which I hold for our late friend JOHN SPARKMAN.

As I attended the services in Huntsville, my thoughts went back to the many contributions that JOHN SPARKMAN made to

the economic well-being of Alabama and the Nation. I thought of all the many phone calls and letters he made during his service in more than 42 years of public life. I would like to extend my deepest sympathy to his devoted wife, Ivo, to his daughter, Julia Ann Shepard, and to other immediate members of the family.

APPENDIXES

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Newspaper Tributes to John J. Sparkman

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Newspaper Tributes

[From the Alabama (Montgomery) Journal and Advertiser, Nov. 17, 1985]

Longtime Alabama Statesman Dies

Former U.S. Senator John Jackson Sparkman, a 42-year veteran of Congress, the 1952 Democratic Vice-Presidential candidate and the only person in American history elected simultaneously to seats in the House and the Senate, died Saturday. He was 85.

Sparkman's grandson, Tazewell T. Shepard III, said the former Democratic Senator died at 12:05 a.m. at Big Springs Manor Nursing Home in Huntsville. He suffered an apparent heart attack, Shepard said.

Sparkman also is survived by his wife, Ivo Hall Sparkman; daughter Julia Ann Shepard of Washington, DC; several nieces and nephews.

Born Dec. 20, 1899, Sparkman was the seventh of 11 children in a family that lived in a four room log cabin and raised cotton on rented land near Hartselle, in north Alabama.

"He was one of the very bright, very talented southern politicians of his day," said William D. Barnard, chairman of the department of history at the University of Alabama and author of the book, "Dixiecrats and Democrats".

"Given his talent and intellect, he could have aspired to the Presidency if he hadn't been from the South," Barnard said.

Sparkman's Deep South roots "meant he had no realistic chance for the office" because national party leaders—mindful of the South's reputation for racial problems—would not consider a southerner for the Presidency, Barnard said.

Governor George C. Wallace, who supported Sparkman in several races, including his last run for the Senate in 1972, called Sparkman "one of Alabama's most distinguished citizens."

Senator Howell Heflin (Democrat-AL), said "Alabama and this Nation have suffered a great loss" with Sparkman's death. Heflin won Sparkman's Senate seat after Sparkman decided not to seek reelection in 1978.

"Probably Senator Sparkman will be best remembered for his statesmanship and expertise in the field of housing, particularly rural housing," Heflin said. "Thousands and thousands of families in this Nation own their homes because of John Sparkman's leadership, dedication, and commitment."

U.S. Representative Tom Bevill (Democrat-Jasper), who served in Alabama's congressional delegation with Sparkman for 12 years, called Sparkman "unique".

"He was known in the Senate as 'Mr. Housing.'" Bevill said, referring to Sparkman's support of federally subsidized public housing.

"I heard him say many times that everywhere he went in the United States, he could see housing projects that he had helped to get. He was always a scholar and a gentleman. When he told you anything, you could depend on it."

Former Alabama Governor Albert P. Brewer, who as a member of the State Young Democrats organization worked in Sparkman's Vice-Presidential campaign, said the Senator "was always willing to help me and to help Alabama."

"Senator Sparkman was a real giant in public service," Brewer said. "You can't look around without seeing his handiwork."

Alabama's junior Senator, Republican Jeremiah Denton, called Sparkman a "true statesman".

"Although I am saddened by the death of Senator Sparkman, I am thankful that he lived and served our Nation," Denton said.

Sparkman died 2 days after the death of another giant in Alabama politics, Armistead I. Selden, Jr. They were close friends and congressional colleagues for a number of years.

As a child, Sparkman walked 4 miles each way to a one-room Hartselle school heated by a wood-burning stove. As was the custom in rural Alabama, the school term was often shortened to only 3 or 4 months because children were needed to help their parents in raising, tending, and harvesting crops—activities that Sparkman helped with from his earliest years.

After graduating from a Hartselle high school, Sparkman entered the University of Alabama in 1916 with $80 earned from working a cotton crop on rented land.

Once at Alabama, Sparkman at first financed his education by tending furnaces and later obtained a teaching fellowship. While an undergraduate, he was elected president of the student body, served as editor of the Crimson and White, the campus newspaper, and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa for his scholastic achievements.

After graduation, Sparkman continued his studies at the university's school of law, graduating in 1923. In that same year he married the former Ivo Hall of Albertville. The couple had one daughter, Julia Ann.

In 1925, Sparkman moved to Huntsville and opened a law practice. To supplement the income earned from his fledgling law practice, he also taught courses at Huntsville College.

During the late 1920's and early 1930's, Sparkman built a reputation as an able attorney and civic leader, and served as president of the Huntsville Chamber of Commerce and district governor of the Kiwanis Clubs of Alabama.

He was also an active member of the First Methodist Church of Huntsville, where he taught Sunday school.

In 1936, Sparkman ran for Congress in Alabama's northern district—an area that included the counties lying between the Tennessee River and the Tennessee State line.

Defeating four other strong candidates, Sparkman took a seat in Congress in 1936 in the depths of the Great Depression and soon established himself like many other young southern Congressman such as Lyndon Johnson, as a "New Deal" Democrat allied with the progressive social programs of President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

"Sparkman was one of the many bright, talented southern politicians whose political ideas were shaped by the New Deal," Barnard said.

"He was very much influenced by the way that New Deal social programs helped his own region," Barnard said. "He favored an expanded role for the Federal Government because he came into office in a period when his own very poor region could not provide for itself."

Sparkman was an active backer of programs such as the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Rural Electrification Administration and the Farm Telephone Service—all innovative programs through which the Federal Government provided basic services to rural, often poor citizens.

"Those were bread and butter kinds of issues," Barnard said. "Sparkman and his colleagues—people like Lister Hill, Estes Kefauver and Lyndon Johnson—did a lot to permit the South to cast off the colonial economic position that had existed between the North and South since the Civil War."

In 1946, Sparkman easily won renomination for a sixth term in Congress. After the Democratic primary, however, Senator John H. Bankhead died, leaving an Alabama Senate seat open.

Sparkman won a special Democratic primary election to run for Bankhead's seat. Had he withdrawn from the race for his House seat, however, a Republican would have taken the seat by default, because the Democrats were prohibited from holding a second primary to nominate another candidate for the office.

Sparkman became the only person in history to run for a seat in the House and Senate simultaneously—and he won both seats. Shortly after the election, however, he resigned his House seat, which was filled after a special election by Robert Jones, who became a longtime Sparkman ally in Congress.

One of the peaks of Sparkman's career came in 1952, when Illinois Senator Adlai Stevenson, the Democratic nominee for President, chose Sparkman as his running mate.

"In Sparkman, Stevenson chose a safe southerner," Barnard said. "He had not been identified with a rigid or aggressive race position."

Although the nomination was an honor and placed Sparkman on the brink of a career as a national politician, the popularity of General Dwight Eisenhower proved too potent a force for the Stevenson-Sparkman ticket to overcome.

The Democrats were soundly defeated, but Sparkman in later years was fond of pointing out that, although they lost, he and Stevenson had attracted 27 million votes, more than Roosevelt had gathered during his landslide victories in the 1930's and 1940's.

Like other southern politicians of his generation, Sparkman for much of his career was an opponent of civil rights legislation.

But according to Barnard, historians are careful to distinguish moderates like Sparkman from the fiery race-baiting politicians like George Wallace and Strom Thurmond, who in the late 1950's and early 1960's built political careers by defending segregation of the races.

"He remained true to his moderate-progressive traditions," Barnard said. "He signed the southern manifesto opposing the *Brown* v. *Board of Education* school desegregation decision, but he never used the race question as an active campaign issue like some of the others."

Late in his career, Sparkman was honored by his peers in the Senate when he was elected chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, traditionally one of the most prestigious chairmanships in the Congress.

While in the post, Sparkman guided to approval President Jimmy Carter's controversial treaties returning ownership of the Panama Canal to Panama.

Sparkman was known as a key backer of housing legislation, a strong supporter of defense and farm bills, and an advocate of Federal support for small businesses.

In addition to the Banking and Foreign Relations Committee chairmanships, Sparkman also served as chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Small Business, and as majority whip in the House.

He retired from the Senate in 1978, after 42, years in Congress.

[From the Huntsville (AL) Times, Nov. 17, 1985]

SIMPLY "PAPA"

(By Peter Cobun)

He called him "Papa". Simply "Papa".

To most who knew him, John Jackson Sparkman was "Senator". Or, in the later Capitol Hill years, "Mr. Chairman".

But only one person called him "Papa".

"It was my term of endearment," remembers Tazewell Shepard III, the only grandson of John Sparkman, who died quietly early Saturday in Huntsville.

Shepard talked Saturday of his grandfather, of his childhood memories of the Senator, of his influence on his life.

"Being his grandson," said Shepard easily, "gave me the opportunity to spend a lot of time with a type of person who doesn't appear in life very often.

"You may meet a politician who's been very successful. You may meet a person who is very intelligent and has many academic honors. And you may be fortunate enough to meet a person who is so even-tempered and nice to be around.

"But I have never met another person in my life," said Shepard, "who could combine all of these qualities as grandfather did."

John Sparkman was long established in the Washington power structure before Taz Shepard was born in 1954. He had by then served five terms in the House, 8 years in the Senate, and picked by his party as the Democratic ticket's running mate to Adlai Stevenson in the 1952 Presidential race.

The Shepard's home was just a block from Sparkman's in the Spring Valley section of northwest Washington during Taz's childhood years. "I was around him all the time," recalled Shepard.

"I can remember that we had always eaten by the time he came home from the office at night—usually 8 or 9 o'clock.

"He would always have this multitude of reading material: five or six newspapers, material related to whatever hearing was in progress. And magazines and books—just for pleasure.

"But he always had time for his family. It's a funny thing. As hard as he worked, I can't ever remember him saying to me—even as a child, 'Let me talk

to you later. I've got to get this done.' He would always act as if the only thing he had to do was talk to me. Like I was the most important thing in the world."

Always interested in showing his grandson off to his colleagues, Sparkman would take young Taz to lunch in the Senate dining room, then lead him to the tables of congressional power brokers.

John Sparkman wisely realized what these even brief encounters would mean to his grandson years later.

"I remember when we were in New York one time when I was about 8," recalled Shepard, "and he was very interested in my getting to meet Ambassador Stevenson. He was very busy, but he arranged for us to ride with him in his limousine to an appointment.

"I wasn't sure at the time *exactly* who Adlai Stevenson was. But I think my grandfather understood that when I was older, I'd recognize the opportunity he had given me."

And Shepard would later learn "grandfather was always doing little things—which I didn't realize at the time—to stimulate me intellectually."

Sparkman so excelled in German and French at the University of Alabama, he was offered a professorship in the language department when he graduated. But law school was his goal, and he declined.

But his mastering of the languages stayed with him through the years.

Shepard remembers as a child his grandfather "would use little phrases in German and French with me. If I didn't understand, he would explain them to me. But the next time he used them, he'd assume I knew what they meant.

"And before I knew it, I probably knew 50 words in German and 50 in French.

"I think he was an example of the best kind of teacher."

Sparkman would lay down his committee gavel by day to toil in his garden by the summer's early evening sun. Often his grandson would be at his side.

"Most of the time I was growing up," remembers Shepard, "grandfather would have a vegetable garden somewhere in the city. Maybe one or two acres.

"When I was little, we would often go out during the warm months in the evenings and he would work in his garden. He would show me how to weed. How to plant. He'd show me the corn, the tomatoes ripening on the vine.

"And we'd often go for walks in the woods, where he'd identify for me all the different varieties of trees at a glance. When we were both in Alabama, it was something to look forward to when we'd go out to the farm out Pulaski Pike.

"My grandfather loved nature—and animals. We always had dogs when I was growing up. And despite all the work my grandfather had to do, he was usually the one who walked the dogs—morning and night. It's what he enjoyed."

Just as his grandfather did, Taz Shepard graduated from the University of Alabama Law School and settled in Huntsville to practice law. In the late 1920's and early 1930's, John Sparkman pored over his cases from a desk in the firm of Taylor, Richardson & Sparkman. Today the 31-year-old Shepard practices in a descendent of that firm: Bell, Ricardson & Herrington.

"I think my grandfather was always happy that I was interested in following in the same profession that he enjoyed," said Shepard. "He encouraged me. But never pressured me."

It was just like the hot pepper treats.

Sparkman had a lifelong habit. Most nights, before going to bed, he'd go to the kitchen, crumble up a piece of cornbread into his glass of buttermilk, and chase it with hot peppers. Sometimes he'd even bake the cornbread himself.

"He'd eat that like I'd eat milk and cookies," said Shepard.

"I remember him letting me taste one of those peppers. Once. It must be an acquired taste."

[From the Huntsville (AL) Times, Nov. 17, 1985]

SPARKMAN IS PRAISED; FUNERAL SET FOR MONDAY

(By Peter Cobun and Randy Quarles)

Senator John J. Sparkman, mourned in death as one of the ablest politicians and statesmen in Alabama's history, will be buried in the city he called home.

Funeral services will be held at First United Methodist Church at 3 p.m. Monday, with the Rev. Jerry Sisson officiating. Burial will be in Maple Hill Cemetery.

Alabama's nine-member congressional delegation was said to be making arrangements Saturday night to fly to Huntsville Monday to attend the Senator's funeral.

Today the family will hold a visitation for the Senator from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. at Laughlin-Service Funeral Home.

Sparkman, 85, died early Saturday at a Huntsville nursing home. Family members said he suffered a heart attack during the night.

As word of his death reached Washington, DC, Sparkman was eulogized by this Nation's political leadership—among them colleagues who had worked side by side with Sparkman in the years since he was first elected to the Congress in 1936.

Senator Howell T. Heflin, who won the Senate seat from which Sparkman retired in 1979, said Saturday that Sparkman "will probably be best remembered for his statesmanship and expertise in the field of housing, particularly rural housing."

"Thousands and thousands of families in this Nation own their own homes because of John Sparkman's leadership, dedication, and commitment," said Heflin in a statement released by his office.

Heflin and his wife, Elizabeth Ann, enjoyed a long personal friendship with Sparkman. "In fact," he said, "John Sparkman served as the campaign manager for my wife's grandfather, Archie H. Carmichael, when he (Carmichael) was elected to Congress."

Sparkman later succeeded him as a Member of Congress.

Heflin noted that Sparkman served longer in the Senate than any other Alabamian—with 32 years in the upper Chamber, preceded by 10 years in the House.

That he was elected simultaneously to the House and Senate in 1946, added Heflin, indicates the respect and confidence he inspired in Alabama voters.

Sparkman resigned his House seat in order to serve in the Senate.

U.S. Representative Ronnie G. Flippo of Florence praised Sparkman's tenure as chairman of the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs from 1967 through 1974.

"His contributions to Alabamians and the Nation in Banking, housing, and small business improved the lives of our people," said Flippo. "This favorite son of Alabama earned a great deal of respect from the Nation. We miss him and extend our sympathies to his family."

Sparkman was appropriately nicknamed "Mr. Housing" by his congressional colleagues, said U.S. Representative Tom Bevill of Jasper, who came to Congress 12 years before Sparkman's retirement.

"I heard him say many times that everywhere he went in the United States, he could see housing projects that he had helped to get," recalled Bevill.

"He was a dedicated man," said Bevill. "He was always a scholar and a gentleman. When he told you anything, you could depend on it."

Senator Jeremiah Denton of Mobile, in a statement released by his office, called Sparkman "a true statesman."

"Although I am saddened by the death of Senator Sparkman, I am, with all Alabamians, thankful that he lived and served our State, our Nation, and the world," Denton said in the statement.

For longtime Sparkman aide and friend Edd H. Hyde, the Senator's sponsorship of legislation creating the Small Business Administration was among the most notable achievements of a distinguished career.

"He was truly a representative of the people, a man of compassion, and was loved and respected by all his associates," said Hyde, an Alabama native now living in the Washington surburb of Arlington, VA.

"He was not only a great boss but also a dear friend."

Hyde joined Sparkman's Senate staff in 1946 as his executive assistant, and became administrative assistant later in his first 10-year stint with the Senator. After a career as a vice president of Reynolds Metal Co., Hyde returned to Capitol Hill as Sparkman's executive assistant for the final 2 years of his last term.

During the time that Sparkman served in the Senate along with the late Senator Lister Hill the (Democrat–AL) the State generally was acknowledged as having one of the strongest teams in the upper Chamber, Hyde said.

In 1952, when the Democratic Party nominated Sparkman as presidential candidate Adlai Stevenson's running mate, Hyde headed his campaign staff.

"We had a DC–3 plane," said Hyde. "There were 11 of us on the campaign trail.

"We went all over the country, stopping mainly at so-called medium-sized towns, the places Stevenson couldn't get to. He (Sparkman) was a super campaigner. We couldn't fill all of the requests for appearances."

Bill Rasco, administrative assistant to Flippo, said Saturday the State's congressional delegation may attempt to attend Sparkman's funeral as a group, possibly flying to Huntsville on a military aircraft.

Rasco said he was attempting to make the arrangements.

In Alabama, Governor George C. Wallace described Sparkman as one of Alabama's most distinguished citizens," according to a statement released by his press secretary.

Wallace endorsed Sparkman in several campaigns, including his last one for the Senate in 1972, said aide Billy Joe Camp.

"We know that his accomplishments to the State, Nation, even the world are significant," Camp quoted Wallace as saying.

Former State Governor Albert P. Brewer of Decatur said, "You can't look around without seeing (Sparkman's) handiwork."

A longtime Sparkman friend, 83-year-old Lizzie Reid Penn of Hartselle, said she "will always remember him as a marvelous person." Mrs. Penn was a sophomore at Morgan County High School in Hartselle in 1917 when Sparkman was a senior.

"We lived in a small village town (Hartselle), and John always stood out because he was so brilliant."

She recalled one of Sparkman's favorite stories about how he "promoted" himself in school.

Sparkman was raised east of Hartselle in the Mount Tabor community. When he walked to high school he found there were students in four rooms. "In those days the students didn't move, the teachers did," she said.

Sparkman waited for a teacher with the other students. When no one showed up, he walked across the hall to the next classroom where there was a teacher talking to the class.

"He used to laugh and say how he promoted himself a grade simply by walking across the hall," Mrs. Penn said.

Hartselle's main street and its civic center are named for the Senator.

The Senator's survivors include his wife, Ivo Hall Sparkman of Huntsville; his daughter, Julia Ann Shepard of Washington, DC; and his grandson, Tazewell T. Shepard III of Huntsville.

[From the Rappahannock [illegible]ilmarnock, VA) Record, Dec. 5, 1985]

EXCERPTS

(By Henry Lane Hull)

Many local readers have pleasant memories of former Senator John J. Sparkman of Alabama who died last month at the age of 85. During the last years of his long Senate tenure he enjoyed escaping from the pressures of Capitol Hill by coming to the Northern Neck to stay at The Tides Inn or visit his wife's sister and brother-in-law, Doctor and Mrs. William C. Alford at Weems. When The Glory Box Antiques opened at the King Carter Tavern in Irvington, Senator Sparkman happened to be the first person to come through the doors. The quiet simplicity and serenity of this area seemed to offer him the chance to rest and reflect away from the spotlight of Washington.

John Sparkman was born 10 days before the end of the last century on a farm near Hartselle, AL. He grew up in the pre-World I South, and went on to the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa where he received a good ground-

ing in history and political science. Later in life he liked to remind visitors that he knew the names and dates of all of the kings and queens of England.

After college and law school at Alabama he practiced law and ran for the House of Representatives in 1936. His election in the Roosevelt landslide of that year started a congressional career that would last 42 years. In that long saga he sustained only one loss at the polls, in 1952 when a fellow Senator from California, Richard M. Nixon, defeated him for Vice President in the Eisenhower landslide which overwhelmed Sparkman and his Democratic Presidential running mate, Adlai E. Stevenson.

After 10 years in the House John Sparkman had run in 1946 for the House and Senate simultaneously. He was the first person elected to both posts. He then chose the Senate where he remained until 1979. In that "greatest of deliberative bodies," he rose to become chairman first of the Banking and Currency Committee after the defeat in the 1966 primary of Virginia's A. Willis Robertson, and then in 1975 of the Foreign Relations Committee. In 1961, he served as chairman of the Presidential Inaugural Committee and can be remembered by many riding in the open car up Pennsylvania Avenue with the new President and First Lady, John and Jacqueline Kennedy.

Power and success never changed Senator Sparkman. He would stop someone he did not know on the street to comment on a rose blooming nearby, and receive the most humble of constituents in his office with all the grace of a southern gentleman.

The obituaries have recounted all of his political accomplishments from fathering housing legislation to presiding over two of the most vital committees on the Hill. To those of us who knew him, however, whether in Kilmarnock, Alabama, or Washington, he was a kindly gentleman with a gift for making others comfortable in his presence. Considering what he was and what he did with his life that may be his most enduring personal memory.

[From the Shield and Diamond (Pi Kappa Alpha), December 1985]

Senator Sparkman: An Historic Career

Pi Kappa Alpha's 1947 Distinguished Achievement Award Recipient

Former Senator John J. Sparkman (Gamma Alpha 1925), 85, an Alabama Democrat who served on Capitol Hill for more than four decades, who ran for Vice President in 1952 and who chaired the Senate's Banking and Foreign Relations Committees, died Saturday, November 16, 1985, at a nursing home in Huntsville, AL, after a heart attack.

Senator Sparkman, who was elected to the Senate in 1946, was chosen by Illinois Governor Adlai E. Stevenson as his 1952 running mate for the Presidency. The Stevenson-Sparkman ticket, though finishing well ahead of President Truman's 1948 vote totals, was soundly defeated by the Republican ticket of Dwight D. Eisenhower and Richard M. Nixon.

Sparkman was first elected to Congress as the Representative from the Eighth District in 1936 and reelected five times without opposition.

In the House he was majority whip in his last term, and was a member of the former Military Affairs Committee during World War II.

After a decade in the House, he won a special election to the Senate following the death of Senator John Bankhead. That year he also won reelection to his House seat, one of the few times a Member of Congress has won both at the same time.

Six years later, he had earned enough respect in the Democratic Party to be selected for the Vice Presidential nomination on the ticket with former Illinois Governor Adlai Stevenson.

Sparkman helped the Democrats hold the South against the Eisenhower-Nixon ticket. However, Eisenhower received 34 million votes out of the 61 million cast.

By the time he retired in 1979, Sparkman had served one of the longest spans on record for a Member of Congress, a total of 42 years, including 10 in the House.

Sparkman was alternately called a southern populist liberal, a New Deal progressive, or a moderate.

Sparkman's greatest contribution probably was as a primary craftsman of the Nation's public housing legislation beginning with the watershed Housing Act of 1949, which began the Nation's urban renewal program.

And as chairman of the Housing Subcommittee, Sparkman had a hand in drafting or rewriting virtually every housing bill that passed Congress since World War II.

He was known in the Senate as "Mr. Housing," said Democratic Representative Tom Bevill (Zeta, University of Tennessee), who served with Sparkman on Capitol Hill for 12 years. "I heard him say many times that everywhere he went in the United States, you could see housing projects he helped to get."

Sparkman also was known as the architect of the Federal Home Administration's system of private home financing that enabled thousands of Americans to own their own homes.

As chairman of the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee from 1967–74, he had a hand in writing almost all of the modern bank regulatory laws.

As chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Small Business, Sparkman was credited with doing more for developing tax and credit assistance for small businesses than any other Senator.

Sparkman authored such bills as the Small Business Act of 1953, the Small Business Investment Act and the Small Business Tax Act of 1958 and the Small Business Amendments of 1966 and 1967.

Sparkman also pushed bills through Congress that provided funds for rural electrification projects. He was an early supporter of the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Nation's largest public utility.

He firmly supported Federal social programs until the issue of race forced him to oppose much of the Johnson administration "Great Society" programs.

But even after he joined in the filibusters against civil rights legislation in the 1960's, he faced strong conservative challenge from Democratic and Republicans.

He survived largely because of the unqualified support from businessmen, bankers, and homebuilders, whose interests he had championed in the Banking Committee.

Sparkman was appointed U.S. delegate to the United Nation by President Harry Truman and served as a delegate in 1950 and 1951.

A member of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations since 1951, he took over as chairman in 1975 after Senator J. William Fulbright was defeated in an Arkansas Democratic primary battle by Governor Dale Bumpers. He chaired the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, widely considered the Senate's most prestigious assignment, until he retired from the Senate on January 3, 1979.

He earned mixed reviews as chairman of Foreign Relations. Many of the more aggressive Democrats in Congress lamented the fall of the committee's preceding chairman. They said that under Senator Sparkman the committee had become a less important arena for foreign policy struggles.

What some saw as a change in the committee's importance, Senator Sparkman saw as a philosophical adjustment. He told a New York Times reporter that his committee "does have an impact on foreign policy, but doesn't make foreign policy, except insofar as the executive will take our advice and consent.

Although some Members of Congress had seemingly endless disagreements with such executive branch figures as Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, Senator Sparkman did not. He told reporters that Kissinger always came to the committee when asked, always answered questions, and always kept the committee briefed.

John Jackson Sparkman was born near Hartselle, AL, on Dec. 20, 1899. The seventh of 11 children, he lived on a tenant farm until he was 21.

He found that he did not like farm work, and mortgaged a prize acre of cotton for $75. With this he entered the University of Alabama, where he paid his way by tending furnaces. He later earned a teaching fellowship to finance his education.

At the university he received A.B., M.S., M.A., and LL.B. degrees, and was editor of the Crimson-White student newspaper, president of the student body, outstanding student, Phi Beta Kappa and Jasons.

He received honorary doctor of law degrees from Spring Hill College, the University of Alabama, Auburn University, Athens College, and the National University of Seoul, Korea.

Before entering Congress in 1937, he taught at Huntsville College in Alabama and served in the Army in World War I. He practiced law in Huntsville from 1925 to 1937. Since 1979, he and a grandson, Tazewell T. Shepard III, maintained the law partnership of Sparkman & Sheppard in Huntsville.

In addition to his grandson, Senator Sparkman's survivors include his wife of 62 years, the former Ivo Hall of Huntsville, and a daughter, Julia Ann (Jan) Shepard of Washington.

[From the New York (NY) Times, Nov. 17, 1985]

JOHN SPARKMAN, 85, EX-SENATOR, DIES

Former Senator John J. Sparkman, the Democratic Vice-Presidential nominee in 1952, died of a heart attack early yesterday at Big Springs Manor Nursing Home in Huntsville, AL. He was 85 years old.

The Alabama Democrat had served 42 years in Congress before retiring in January 1979. He suffered a heart attack shortly after his retirement, and had been undergoing therapy at the nursing home for a broken hip he suffered about 2 years ago.

Mr. Sparkman, the son of a tenant farmer, was first elected to the Senate in 1946 after serving for 10 years in the House of Representatives.

He was one of the early populist liberals to come out of the South and made his greatest legislative mark as an advocate of public housing while serving as chairman of the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs from 1967 to 1974.

STEVENSON'S RUNNING MATE

The high point of Mr. Sparkman's political life came in 1952, when he was chosen as Adlai E. Stevenson's running mate. In the general election the Democratic ticket was defeated by Dwight D. Eisenhower, the Republican Presidential nominee, who received nearly 34 million votes out of the 61.5 million cast and won the electoral votes of all but nine States.

For a number of years Mr. Sparkman was chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Small Business, where he worked on bills to help the survival of small, family-owned farms.

He also served for many years on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee under Senator J.W. Fulbright, Democrat of Arkansas, and succeeded Mr. Fulbright as chairman in 1975 after the Arkansan failed to win renomination in a primary contest.

While Senator Sparkman was highly regarded by his colleagues for his geniality and intelligence, some maintained that the Senator, then 75, was too old and lacking in energy to give the Foreign Relations Committee firm leadership. Indeed, some members of the committee and others familiar with its working contended that under Mr. Sparkman's chairmanship the committee lost much of its influence.

POWER TO THE PRESIDENT

Shortly after becoming chairman of the committee, however, he expressed in an interview his belief that the President, not Congress, shaped foreign policy, and that was how it should be.

"The Constitution places in the hands of the President the right to originate and execute foreign policy, and he does that through the agency of the Secretary of State," Mr. Sparkman said. While acknowledging that the committee "does have an impact on foreign policy," he asserted, "It doesn't make foreign policy, except insofar as the executive will take our advice and consent."

Mr. Sparkman was especially displeased with efforts by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to set itself "in public opposition" to Presidential policy on the Vietnam war.

He frequently praised John Foster Dulles, who was Eisenhower's Secretary of State, for his consultations with the Foreign Relations Committee. He also admired Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg, the Michigan Republican, for his bipartisan approach to foreign policy in World War II and the immediate postwar years.

John Jackson Sparkman was born on Dec. 20, 1899, the seventh of 11 children of Whitten Joseph Sparkman and the former Julia Mitchell Kent. His father was a tenant farmer, and Mr. Sparkman spent his early childhood in a four-room log house near the Tennessee Valley town of Hartselle in northern Alabama.

He studied by kerosene light, walked 4 miles each way to high school and worked his way through the University of Alabama, where he earned a bachelor of arts degree, a master's degree, and a law degree.

To enroll in the university, Mr. Sparkman received a $75 bank loan on a cotton crop, then got a job tending furnaces that paid $4.20 a week. In his junior year he obtained a teaching fellowship in history and political science. He served as student president, edited the college newspaper, and was selected by Phi Beta Kappa.

He joined the Army in October 1918; 3 years later, after receiving his bachelor's degree, he was given a reserve commission in the Coast Artillery.

CIVIC LEADER IN HUNTSVILLE

After graduating from law school in 1923, he married Ivo Hall of Albertville, AL., who had been a fellow student at the university. A daughter was born in 1924.

Mr. Sparkman was admitted to the Alabama bar in 1923 and started practice in Huntsville, where he soon became a civic leader, serving as president of the Huntsville Chamber of Commerce and district governor of the Kiwanis Clubs of America.

He started his political career in 1936, when he was elected to the House from Alabama's Eighth Congressional District.

He was reelected to the House five times. In 1946, in an unusual set of circumstances, he was elected to the Senate at the same time he was reelected to the House. He won the Senate race to fill the unexpired term of Senator John H. Bankhead, who had died earlier that year, and resigned from the House.

Mr. Sparkman was elected to a full term in the Senate in 1948, and was reelected in 1954, 1960, 1966, and 1972.

In January 1978, at the age of 78, he announced that he would not seek reelection to the Senate. He gave no reason for his decision to retire but noted that he had served in the Senate longer than any other person from Alabama.

"ONLY CHERUB IN THE SENATE"

Mr. Sparkman, a burly 6-foot, ruddy-faced man with white hair and a jolly disposition, was once called "the only cherub in the U.S. Senate." He summed

up his political philosophy by saying, "You have to sit down with one another, talk things over, reason together."

Although he rarely took a stand against Presidential policies, Senator Sparkman opposed President Truman's civil rights programs, saying he feared the President had committed a "colossal blunder" in proposing legislation to curb racial discrimination.

In 1948, Mr. Sparkman joined with Senator Richard B. Russell of Georgia in proposing that Truman drop his bid for the Democratic Presidential nomination, but opposed the Dixiecrats who tried to take over the Alabama party machinery.

At the 1952 Democratic National Committee, Mr. Sparkman initially supported Senator Russell for the Presidential nomination. He played a leading role in persuading northern delegates to tone down their civil rights proposals and in persuading southerners to accept planks they had opposed.

After Stevenson, who was then Governor of Illinois, was nominated for the Presidency on the third ballot, Senator Sparkman was nominated for the Vice Presidency by acclamation.

Besides his wife, Ivo, and daughter, Julia Ann Shepard of Washington, Mr. Sparkman is survived by a grandson, Tazewell T. Shepard 3d of Huntsville.

[From the Washington (DC) Post, Nov. 17, 1985]

FORMER SENATOR JOHN J. SPARKMAN, DEMOCRAT FROM ALABAMA, DIES AT 85

(By Richard Pearson)

Former Senator John J. Sparkman, 85, an Alabama Democrat who served on Capitol Hill for more than four decades, who ran for Vice President in 1952 and who chaired the Senate's Banking and Foreign Relations Committees, died yesterday at a nursing home in Huntsville, after a heart attack.

Senator Sparkman, who was elected to the Senate in 1946, was chosen by Illinois Governor Adlai E. Stevenson as his 1952 running mate for the Presidency. The Stevenson-Sparkman ticket, though finishing well ahead of President Truman's 1948 vote totals, was soundly defeated by the Republican ticket of Dwight D. Eisenhower and Richard M. Nixon.

Long an authority on housing, he served as chairman from 1967 to 1975 of what has become the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. He then chaired the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, widely considered the Senate's most prestigious assignment, until he retired from the Senate on Jan. 3, 1979.

He earned mixed reviews as chairman of Foreign Relations. Many of the more aggressive Democrats in Congress lamented the fall of the committee's preceding chairman, Senator J. William Fulbright (Democrat—AR) who was defeated in a 1974 primary election. They said that under Senator Sparkman the committee had become a less important arena for foreign policy struggles.

What some saw as a change in the committee's importance, Senator Sparkman saw as a philosophical adjustment. He told a New York Times reporter that his committee does have an impact on foreign policy, but it doesn't make

foreign policy, except insofar as the executive will take our advice and consent."

Although some Members of Congress had seemingly endless disagreements with such executive branch figures as Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, Senator Sparkman did not. He told reporters that Kissinger always came to the committee when asked, always answered questions, and always kept the committee briefed.

If the views and manners of Senator Sparkman seemed outdated to some, they had a long and honorable tradition. Since the closing days of World War II, it had always been the goal of leaders of both parties to operate a "bipartisan" foreign policy. Much of the bipartisan spirit, and the accepted roles of the President and Congress, became casualties of the war in Southeast Asia.

The congressional career of Senator Sparkman also was long and not without honor. Elected to the House of Representatives in 1936, he served there 10 years before winning a special 1946 election to the Senate. He served in the upper House until retiring. Along the way, he gained a reputation as one of the brightest and most articulate Members of his era and as the personification of the moderate southern wing of the Democratic Party.

Yet, he was a man of his time and place. Like all Senators from the Deep South, he broke with the national Democratic Party over civil rights. In March 1948, he announced that he could not support the election of President Truman, and supported Strom Thurmond's 1948 "Dixiecrat" ticket. Though he continued to oppose much civil rights legislation, he successfully fought Dixiecrats for control of the Alabama Democratic Party organization.

At the 1952 Democratic Convention he served on the platform committee where he was largely responsible for the civil rights plank that was acceptable to both North and South. It was the ability to gain compromise, as well as his popularity on Capitol Hill, that made him a logical choice for the Vice Presidential nomination.

During his decade in the House, he fought for the Tennessee Valley Authority, farm loans, and Social Security. During World War II, he was a leader on the old House Military Affairs Committee and became the House democratic whip in November 1945.

During his Senate years he continued to support a strong bipartisan foreign policy, voting for NATO, the Marshall plan aid program, and generally supporting the executive branch of the Government on foreign and defense issues. He became an authority on the problems of small businesses and fought for omnibus housing bills and for aid to education.

As head of the Banking Committee, Senator Sparkman pioneered legislation ranging from the Housing Act of 1949, which established the Federal urban renewal program intended to revitalize America's cities; to the Fair Credit Billing Act, which provides protection for both consumers and merchants. He also championed the fight for the small businessman. He authored and managed to enact such bills as the Small Business Act of 1953; the Small Business Investment Act and the Small Business Tax Act of 1958.

John Jackson Sparkman was born near Hartselle, AL, on Dec. 20, 1899. The seventh of 11 children, he lived on a tenant farm until he was 21. The future Senator sold a cotton crop he had raised, and with $75, entered the University of Alabama. He worked his way through the school, earning bachelor's, mas-

ter's, and law degrees. He also was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, served as student body president and edited the school paper.

Before entering Congress in 1937, he taught at Huntsville College in Alabama and served in the Army in World War I. He practiced law in Huntsville from 1925 to 1937. Since 1979, he and a grandson, Tazewell T. Shepard III, maintained the law partnership of Sparkman & Shepard in Huntsville.

In addition to his grandson, Senator Sparkman's survivors include his wife of 62 years, the former Ivo Hall, of Huntsville, and a daughter, Julia Ann (Jan) Shepard of Washington.

[From the Boston (MA) Globe, Nov. 17, 1985]

JOHN SPARKMAN, 85, RUNNING MATE TO ADLAI STEVENSON IN 1952

HUNTSVILLE, AL.—Former Senator John Sparkman, the Democratic Vice Presidential running mate of Adlai Stevenson in 1952, died early yesterday of a heart attack at a nursing home. He was 85.

Senator Sparkman's grandson, attorney Tazewell Shepard, said his grandfather died in his sleep shortly after midnight at Big Spring Manor nursing home, where he was undergoing therapy for a broken hip he suffered about 2 years ago.

The Alabama Democrat also suffered a heart attack in 1979 after he retired from the Senate.

"He had gotten better and seemed to be in good spirits and doing quite well. As far as we know, he just died in his sleep, very peacefully," Shepard said.

Senator Sparkman was considered an expert in legislation dealing with housing and financial matters, and he was chairman of the powerful Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee until 1975, when he relinquished the post to assume the chairmanship of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

As head of the Banking Committee, he pioneered legislation ranging from the Housing Act of 1949, which established the Federal urban renewal program intended to revitalize America's cities; to the Fair Credit Billing Act, which provides protection for both consumers and merchants.

The son of a tenant farmer, he was born in Hartselle, AL, and worked his way through the University of Alabama by selling his own cotton crop.

After practicing law for 10 years, he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1936, and was reelected to five terms without opposition.

In the House, he served on the Military Affairs Committee and was majority whip in his last term.

Senator Sparkman held the distinction of being the only man in history to be elected concurrently to both the House and Senate. He was elected to fill the unexpired term of Senator John H. Bankhead and was returned to the House in the same election. He resigned his House seat.

In 1952, Sparkman also championed the fight for the small businessman. He authored such bills as the Small Business Investment Act of 1953; the Small Business Investment Act and the Small Business Tax Act of 1958; and the

Small Business Amendments of 1966–67. He also strived to provide meaningful tax relief for small businesses.

As chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, Senator Sparkman took the position that until a disarmament agreement could be reached among the nuclear superpowers, the only chance for world peace rested with an effective military balance.

[From the Los Angeles (CA) Times, Nov. 17, 1985]

JOHN J. SPARKMAN, 85, VETERAN SENATOR, DIES

HUNTSVILLE, AL.—Former U.S. Senator John J. Sparkman, who served 42 years in Congress and was Adlai Stevenson's running mate on the Democratic Party's 1952 Presidential ticket, died Saturday. He was 85.

Sparkman died at a nursing home after apparently suffering a heart attack, a family spokesman said.

Sparkman, an attorney, was elected to the House of Representatives in 1936. In 1946, he was elected to the Senate to fill a seat vacated by the death of Senator John H. Bankhead. Sparkman was also reelected to the House, the first such double victory on record. He resigned from the House to serve in the Senate.

A husky, homespun man who neither smoked nor drank, Sparkman was elected to his first full term in the Senate in 1948 and was reelected to four terms. He was chairman of the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs from 1967 through 1974 and later was named chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee.

He was born Dec. 20, 1899, in Hartselle, in northern Alabama, seventh of 11 children who grew up in a four-room log house on a tenant farm. He studied by the light of a kerosene lamp, began his education in a one-room school and walked 4 miles each way to high school.

Sparkman borrowed $75 on a cotton crop to enter the University of Alabama, where he later obtained a teaching fellowship.

In 1948, Sparkman had opposed the renomination of President Harry S. Truman because of the President's civil rights program. In advocating laws against lynching, poll taxes, and employment discrimination, the President had committed a "colossal blunder," Sparkman said.

In other respects, however, Sparkman supported Truman, and he was appointed to a United Nations delegation in 1950.

In the 1952 Presidential election, Stevenson and Sparkman lost to Dwight D. Eisenhower and Richard M. Nixon.

As leader of the Senate committee dealing with housing, he was a vigorous supporter of Federal housing programs.

Sparkman was in his 70's by the time he took over the Foreign Relations Committee, and there was some grumbling that he was too old for the job.

"I have kind of blinking eyes when I don't wear glasses regularly, and lots of time, sitting there, I will sit there with my eyes closed," he told an interviewer." "But I am not asleep.

[From the Chicago (IL) Tribune, Nov. 17, 1985]

Former Senator John Sparkman, Adlai's Running Mate in 1952

Huntsville, AL.—Former U.S. Senator John Sparkman, 86, who in 1952 made a bid for national office as Democratic Presidential candidate Adlai Stevenson's running mate, died early Saturday.

Tazewell T. Shepard III, Sparkman's grandson, said the former Democratic Senator died at 12:05 a.m. at Big Springs Manor Nursing Home.

He apparently died of a heart attack, Shepard said.

Senator Sparkman, an attorney, served 41 years in Congress before declining to seek reelection in January 1978. He spent 10 years in the U.S. House beginning in 1937.

After representing the northern part of Alabama for a decade, Senator Sparkman was elected in 1946 to fill the seat of the late Senator John H. Bankhead.

In a unique set of circumstances, Senator Sparkman also was on the ballot for the House in 1946 and was elected to serve there, too, the only person ever elected to the House and Senate at the same time. He resigned the House seat to serve in the Senate.

Senator Sparkman was elected to his first full-term in the Senate in 1948, and was reelected to four 6-year terms. He was chairman of the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs from 1967 through 1974, and later was named chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee.

Senator Sparkman hadn't pursued the Vice Presidential nomination, but was picked by party bosses to run with Stevenson against Dwight Eisenhower.

The former Alabama Senator said he had little contact with his running mate—they got together only three times during the entire campaign.

"It was a thrilling experience," he told Newsweek magazine, "but a grueling experience. When the election results were in, and the Democrats had lost, I think I rather had a lift."

Senator Sparkman told Newsweek he thought the Vice Presidency was a "secondary" office, but also "part of our American system.

"People ought to be willing to run for Vice President like they're willing to run for Senator or mayor or school board trustee-anything."

[From the Hartselle (AL) Enquirer, November 21, 1985]

Sparkman Called Hartselle Home

Washington, DC and the halls of Congress were the battlefields for his legislative triumphs; Huntsville claimed him as a resident and was the site of his law offices; but Hartselle, AL, and the tiny Mt. Tabor community just a few miles east were always "home" to U.S. Senator John Sparkman.

It started in 1936 and ended 42 years later, a career in Congress that spanned eight White House administrations and earned a former Alabama farm boy a place in the history books.

Sparkman answered his last Senate roll call in October of 1978. He retired as Alabama's senior legislator, the fourth ranking member of Congress, and the chairman of the powerful Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In 1952, Sparkman was the Democratic nominee for Vice President on the ticket with Adlai Stevenson.

Sparkman died Saturday, Nov. 16, in Huntsville at the age of 85. Buried Monday, his funeral was attended by state and national leaders who paid tribute to his contribution to domestic and foreign policy at midcentury. They lauded his role in housing and veterans benefits legislation, and remembered him as a man whose childhood gave him the ability to identify with the needs of the poor.

Indeed, Sparkman grew up with none of today's luxuries, comforts and conveniences.

Born on a tenant farm in Mt. Tabor community, he earned his keep by hoeing and plowing, cutting wood, and picking cotton.

At the age of four, his father bought him a primer and enrolled him at the former Mt. Tabor School, a one-room frame building in which a single teacher instructed students ranging in age from five to 18. Young Sparkman walked the six miles to and from school each day.

"I started out in a primer," Sparkman recalled once during a visit to Hartselle to speak at Crestline Elementary School, "and when I had learned it from memory, forwards and backwards, my teacher let me advance to the first reader.

"I think I had finished the sixth reader when my teacher, Miss Effie, told me she couldn't help me anymore and I'd better go down to Hartselle to enroll in high school."

On arriving at Morgan County High School—which meant a daily walk, wagon- or mule-ride of eight miles—Sparkman passed two grades in one day:

"When I walked into the building, I went into the first door at my right and took a seat. That just happened to be the seventh grade. When the teacher didn't show up right away, I got bored and picked up my belongings and went over to the next room. Well, that just happened to be the eighth grade . . ."

Sparkman graduated from Morgan County High School in 1917 and enrolled at the University of Alabama. To start his college career, he had $75 in cash which was advanced to him as a loan on a cotton crop. At college, he worked at stoking furnaces and doing odd jobs around campus, but he graduated with honors. He went on to earn a master's degree and a degree in law.

John Sparkman began his political career in 1936, during Roosevelt's New Deal economic era. He was elected to the House of Representatives from the old Eighth District, a tier of North Alabama counties bordering the Tennessee River.

He was re-elected to five terms without opposition.

Though Sparkman served as Majority Whip during his last term, he is best remembered for his accomplishments on the House Military Affairs Committee.

Representative Sparkman was instrumental in the enactment of the Soldiers and Sailors Civil Relief Act of 1942, a piece of legislation Sparkman would remember as the most pleasing he ever put through.

"I had seen the boys taken away, leaving dependents at home—wives, mothers and children. I felt something had to be done for them," Sparkman said nearly 36 years later. "This act essentially protected them against such things as mortgage foreclosures, penalty for delay, being late in the payment of taxes and payment of debts, protecting them while their boys were away in service. I was proud of the way that worked out."

It was natural, then, for Sparkman to be one of the major authors of the GI Bill of Rights and to later support the Korean Veterans Act and the "Cold War GI Bill," which extended benefits to Vietnam veterans.

Sparkman's legislative record in the House also included sponsorship of Rural Electrification and farm telephone service. He was a staunch supporter of TVA, and he championed the cause of the farmer with such measures as the farm-tenant purchase program, rehabilitation loans for small farmers and lower interest rates on all farm loans.

Sparkman moved from the House to the Senate in 1946 and made history in the process.

When Senator John Bankhead died, Sparkman entered a special election for the unexpired portion of the Bankhead term. Simultaneously, he was nominated for re-election to his own House seat. Because the House seat would go by default to the Republican contender if the Democratic nominee withdrew, Sparkman was asked to remain on the ticket for both offices. He was duly elected to both the House and the Senate.

Though he immediately resigned his House seat, he remains the only man in history elected to both Houses of Congress at the same time.

Meeting in Chicago in 1952, the Democrats nominated Illinois Governor Adlai Stevenson for President. Senator John Sparkman from Alabama became his running mate.

Republican nominees were General Dwight D. Eisenhower and Senator Richard M. Nixon.

The Republican ticket won overwhelmingly in the 1952 election, thanks to 15 million servicemen and their parents who were grateful for Eisenhower's leadership in World War II.

"No one could have beaten him (Eisenhower)," Sparkman said later. "We could have beaten any one else."

As the Senate's recognized leader in housing, Sparkman was personally responsible for nearly every major piece of housing legislation to come out of Congress after World War II.

"Decent, safe and adequate shelter is just as necessary to the American family as food, medicine or clothing," Sparkman maintained.

His efforts to provide Americans with new homes earned Sparkman the title of "Mr. Housing."

Senator Sparkman was the architect of the FHS system of private home financing, and he authored a farm housing law that enabled farmers and veterans living in rural areas to get housing on par with urban residents.

Sparkman served as chairman of the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs.

During his long Senate career, John Sparkman was known as the champion of small business. His unceasing efforts to give small firms an even break at

America's market places resulted in creation of the Small Business Administration.

During his 14-year chairmanship of the Senate Select Committee on Small Business, Sparkman was responsible for legislation designed to give tax relief to small firms, to give them a source of credit and to enable them to share in the government's purchasing program.

The Sparkman-sponsored Small Business Act of 1953 produced $3 billion in capital and credit to over 40,000 small businesses in the U.S.

At the age of 75, Senator John Sparkman assumed the chairmanship of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, replacing Senator J.W. Fulbright, D-Ark.

Sparkman wasn't a newcomer to the field of international-relations. He had served on the Foreign Relations Committee since 1951.

Senator Sparkman was a supporter of the United Nations (he was a delegate in 1950), the Marshall Plan and North Atlantic Pact. He was one of the four U.S. signers of the Japanese Peace Treaty in 1951.

In explaining his voting record in Congress Senator Sparkman once said, "When a difficult question is before the Senate, the question I ask myself is 'What is best for Alabama?' When I answer that question, I am ready to vote."

From his first years in Congress, John Sparkman worked for those things that would build Alabama industry and strengthen her agriculture.

Sparkman supported military installations—Redstone Arsenal in Hunstville, the Air University at Maxwell Field, Brookley Air Force Base in Mobile and the helicopter training-base at Ft. Rucker—brought jobs and income to the state.

His support of the TVA was the key for opening North Alabama to industrial development, and his work with waterway legislation resulted in the Tennessee Tombigbee project.

"I worked with him during Urban Renewal and the development of our parks and recreation facilities in Hartselle," said four-term Mayor John D. Long.

"Senator Sparkman was always there to help whenever we hit a snag. We would call, and he always got things worked out.

"Whenever we had a problem, I would call and he'd laugh and say, 'I'll take care of that,' And, he always did," Long recalled.

"He was a fine man. Senator Sparkman had Hartselle's interest at heart. I doubt if we would be where we are today without the help of John Sparkman."

Senator Sparkman is survived by his wife, Ivo Hall Sparkman, of Huntsville; a daughter, Julia Ann Shepard, of Washington, DC; and a grandson, Tazewell Shephard III.

Memorials to Senator Sparkman should be made to the John Sparkman Chair, University of Alabama School of Law, in care of Dean Gamble.

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CITY OF LOS ANGELES

In Tribute

THE LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL EXTENDS ITS DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO YOU IN THE PASSING OF YOUR LOVED ONE

SENATOR JOHN SPARKMAN

IN WHOSE MEMORY ALL MEMBERS STOOD IN TRIBUTE AND REVERENCE AS THE COUNCIL ADJOURNED ITS MEETING OF NOVEMBER 19, 1985.

Sincerely

(Signed) ELIAS MARTINEZ,
City Clerk.

Presented by

(Signed) JOHN FERRARO,
Councilman.